


# SEVEN DAYS



## THE ANIMAL ISSUE

FREE

### DAYSIES TIME!

Voting ends July 1  
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Burlington to update egg rules

### CATS OUTTA THE BAG

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Best of the Seven's photo winners

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Talking turtle in central Vermont

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Millions and millions of them

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A St. Albans avian shelter

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Doggies survey VT styles

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### Peak VT Artists



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SATURDAY, JULY 12, 8:00 P.M.

Award-winning songwriters Patti Casey & Colin McCaffrey join forces for a one-night performance like no other. Patti has perfected her own New England-flavored, undeniably original bluegrass style. Colin picks and sings bluegrass, folk, blues, and jazz, and beams the region and nationally. Don't miss this show!

### Peak Classics

#### COUNTERPOINT VOCAL ENSEMBLE

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 8:00 P.M.

This professional vocal ensemble has recorded 10 CDs, performed concerts throughout New England and nationally, and garnered praise for its "sophisticated musical expressiveness," and "beautiful blend and lyrics."



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*J. Neurosci.* 2009, 29(18):5733–5741 • 5735

ATTORNEY GENERAL  
R. L. TORRES



The death of a 9-month-old toddler had led to a leadership shake-up at the National Office of the Department for the Cracked and Fractured. It was the office that handled the case of 11-year-old Christine Schodden — one of two children killed in the first few months with whom the agency was involved.

Colleen is evidently in distress, broken legs, the National DCF allowed her to return home to her mother, Susan MacDonald, who had already been charged with medical neglect. Deanne was subsequently killed. Her daughter, Corrie, duty is charged with second degree murder.

in the wake of a report that found race discrimination among them.

involved in the situation. CDF announced that Lynne Kamen, food services director for the Agency of Human Services, will lead the cleanup effort on its own terms.

The state is also bringing in a nonprofit child welfare organization, Early Family Programs, to run all GCFSpections and make recommendations.

Their 13-year-old son, Mark, was reported on both ICF developments on the ICF Message Board.

The death of Debbie and 16-month-old Prigdon Carter of Winona have indeed floating quest over ICF. A field worker visited Prigdon's home to investigate suspicious circumstances, and then left his boat later. The boy was dead.

Gov. Peter Humphrey had said

ously announced plans to hire additional DCF staff and has indicated the administration may restructure the department. A state legislative panel is investigating and is expected to suggest initiatives in the next legislative session. Cited by two DCF sources (D. Weintraub) the subject of Davis' cover story last week ("How State Went to the States") is:

Attorney General Bill Searles has asserted that the state should reveal confidentiality policies in investigations such as these, writing: "The system as a whole will benefit from increased public awareness of the scope of child abuse and neglect in Vermont, the child protection process generally, and the decision making in particular cases."



**HEAVY WEATHER**  
Police investigated a fire at a Milton, Mass., station that was said to have started during a bear attack. The cops found no sign of trouble.



**BETTER IMAGE**  
Fletcher Allen  
Partners will soon  
be the University  
of Vermont Health  
Network  
Home - UVMHNS



**NOT A CHILL**  
It was warm, but the grounds—somebody delivered to the Wisconsin Post Department led to the closure of Miss Street last week. Next time soldiers offend, just call a



**GUITAR GUT**  
The city-owned instrument by the Charleston School of Music is a piece of art — you guessed it — aptly named after the drums. Needle-shaped, the harp is a piece of art.

**81.4**  
The pure stage of Vermont children who have access to medical and dental care — the highest of any state in the U.S., according to the 2003-2004 National Survey of Children's Health. Vermont's health care rankings prompted the Washington Post to proclaim it "the best state in America."

[illegible]

- 7 "WFF: Georgia's Inheritance Certificate?" by Ken Renslow. Want to see just how distant inheritance from your very own home? We've got the formula for you. It's the one that will tell you the low price of \$263,000. 2001
- 8 "Was He Truly Born in Georgia?" by Margaret Hammers. When you're passing around old family photos, you may find one of a young man, one day and his signature said "Margaret Ann Hammers". 2001
- 9 "Burial and Pigeon Lairs in the Georgia" by John C. Hinkle. Count them, the burials, have in Savannah and Pigeon Lairs in the Georgia. 2001
- 10 "Inquiring Deed: Shaming the Politician" by John C. Hinkle. Shaming the Politician. 2001
- 11 "From Salt to Water to the Saltwater" by John C. Hinkle. Salt water is the most abundant source of water in the world. This state source of water is leading the in public charge to reform the Department for the Ocean and Fisheries upon the shore. 2001



tweet of  
the week:

2000

This abstract requires little comment.  
BBS and C. J. B. B. B.



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by a thousand pounds of meat? Then follow the rules of the road.

Sean Marston  
SHELTERING

### THE EVOLUTION OF A GIANT

I loved the cover story about the roadside armature of Quabbin Route 103 ("La Route des Troubles," June 11). I've been snapping photos along that way for years

myself, consciously complementing the work that I see, especially in a century proliferated by so many roadside journalists who lack the basic requisite skills. Mark Davis' piece about Ben Dick Beers, though, truly captured the essence of this remarkable man whose art has been my privilege to come to know. Keep up the exemplary work.

Gordon Bach  
NORTHFIELD

*Beers is chair of CURE Vermont, which advocates for prisoners, former prisoners and their loved ones.*

### AA OUSTER

I read with great amusement that the American Apparel CEO, Dov Charney, has been fired for unacceptable acts of sexual misconduct — the most recent of which was a viral video of Charney

dancing around naked in front of two AA employees. In 2009 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Los Angeles found American Apparel discriminated against women, in a class, on the basis of their female gender by subjecting them to sexual harassment. Apparently, the numerous complaints to the labor regarding their questionable adverts on the back cover of *Seven Days* had merit.

Steve Allen  
WATSFIELD

### PEYTON'S PLACE?

We have a candidate in Vermont who stands against divided gov, against the 9-11 and for public banking, agricultural hemp and other popular positions. Paul Hantzopoulos has been in a viable and important race for governor (Five Stars, June 11). Emily Peyton is the only candidate who represents those ideas, and *Seven Days* does a disservice to the people by shunning those who would keep those ideas alive. Emily has been working at a grassroots level to bring these ideas to the fore. It is irresponsible of *Seven Days* to ignore independent candidates who bring important proposals to light.

Jim Hague  
CALAIS

*Editor's note: Technically, Hantzopoulos did not appear before the Senate, "The only one left on the Republican ballot" may be Emily Peyton, the Putney office who runs for office nearly every election."*

### SO SEARS

[Re: From State Word to the Stonehouse," June 18]. As a "recovering" journalist and active news person, I don't often find



As mentioned, the antique giant had prior lives. When the business he watched over was a truck bed, he held a Goli and free. They gave way to a ladderback chair before he evolved to his current incarnation as a larger-than-life life assistant.

Michael Levine  
MIDDLESEX

### CONNECTION

In his May 28 *Five Stars* column, Paul Hantzopoulos said that Burlington Friends of Education purchased a full-page ad in the Burlington *Free Press*. In fact, the ad was paid for by a separate group of residents who supported the school budget.

### SAY SOMETHING!

*Seven Days* wants to publish your hearts and voices.

Your feedback means:

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*Seven Days* reserves the right to edit for accuracy length and consistency.

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**Smoker Joe's Card**  
with The Castles  
Sunday October 26, 2014

## B.B. King

Thursday, October 09, 2014

**Jazz at  
Lincoln Center  
Orchestra  
with Wynton Marsalis**  
Sunday, October 12, 2014

**Alvin II**  
Sunday October 13, 2014

**Mozart's La Nozze di Figaro**  
October 18, 2014

**Bella Fuchs &  
Arman Waisman**  
Thursday, October 23, 2014

**Venue's Macbeth**  
October 22, 2014

**Boen's Carmen**  
November 1, 2014

**Jessie & Hoot -  
Musicalbox Actors Workshop**  
Thursday November 06, 2014

**Lyle  
Lovett  
and His Acoustic Group**  
Friday, November 07, 2014

**Amara's The Death of  
Blanchette**  
November 15, 2014

**Rick Springfield:  
Stripped Down**  
Thursday, November 20, 2014

**Bill Engvall**  
Sunday, November 23, 2014  
[2 shows]

**Beehive**  
Sunday, November 23, 2014

**Dave Stryker Orchestra**  
Wednesday December 03, 2014

**LeAnn Rimes**  
Friday, December 05, 2014

**Wagner's Das Meistersinger  
von Nürnberg**  
December 13, 2014

**ALBANY BERNSHIRE BALLET:  
The Nutcracker**  
Sunday, December 21, 2014 (2 shows)

**Classic Albums Live:  
Dave Stryker & The Moon**  
Friday, January 16, 2015

**Leann's The Merry Widow**  
January 17, 2015

**BUDDY: THE BUDDY HOLLY  
STORY**  
Thursday, January 22, 2015

**Passion at the Paramount:  
Gabe Levine, piano**  
Sunday January 25, 2015

**Ovenhouse's Les Contes  
d'Hiver**  
January 31, 2015

**The Castles Steps**  
Friday February 06, 2015

**Passion at the Paramount:  
Paul Huang, violin**  
Sunday February 08, 2015

**Tennant's The Illusion /  
Bertie's The Blacksmith's Castle**  
February 14, 2015

**Lonestar**  
Friday, February 20, 2015

**The Irish Country Tenors**  
Sunday February 22, 2015

**Rossini's La Donna del Lago**  
March 14, 2015

**Passion at the Paramount:  
Raphael Seibert, clarinet**  
Friday March 20, 2015

**Colin Mochrie &  
Brad Sherwood:  
2 Man Group**  
Thursday, March 26, 2015

**Pacific Acrobats**  
Friday April 10, 2015

**Celtic Thunder:  
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**Rachel's Zoo Acrobats**  
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Moov' Tweet! Chick. We're not sure what turtles or zebras 'say' but they're in this annual animal issue too! **A ZEBRA IN VERMONT?** Yes. Zebras' lives in Reading. In other news, we examine the Vermont Supreme Court's **OGG-CUSTOM DECISION** in a divorce case, investigate Burlington's forthcoming **URBAN-LIVESTOCK REGS.** and report on an international **ANTI-MARINE-POACHING** group, complete with material on eco-activist, modeling in Woodstock. You'll want to know about a gay white-birds classic **WOOD-TURTLES** in central Vermont, the St. Albans couple who run an **AVIAN SHELTER**, and of course how to **TRAIN KITTY TO USE THE TOILET**. Not least, we offer a Vermont roundup of everyone's least-favorite critters: **INSECTS**. And finally, Steven Gay's doggies: **TASTE-TEST LOCAL-VEG TREATS**. Sweet!

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BY MICHAEL REED

## VIDEO SERIES



Universal Studios



**Stuck in Vermont** By Amy Rodriguez (a.k.a. Amy) hosts a new series for NBCU. By night, she shares commissions around the roller derby track as captain of the Green Mountain Derby Demons league.

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## Big Blues

If any of Vermont's top political and economic development officials know what lies ahead for IBM's roughly 4,000 Vermont workers, they're not saying.

But they're clearly bracing for the possibility that Executive of Asia Director GlobalFoundries is "meeting a deaf" to buy Big Blue's chip-making business, as Bloomberg reported last week says. And they're hugging like bulli that said a sale would trigger the high-paying jobs at IBM's Essex Junction and Williston plants which would likely be included in the transaction.

"Regardless of what comes in on the door of the IBM-Vermont enterprise, we all must act immediately and collaboratively to demonstrate our state's commitment, our region's commitment to the success and well-being of the IBM enterprise," Greater Burlington International Corporation president FRANK CHENG said Monday afternoon.

CHENG made the remarks at a Burlington press conference he called to announce a slate of state measures he thinks might keep IBM—at or at least its manufacturing and R&D jobs—in Chittenden County. Though the company has slashed its Vermont workforce in the past decade, it remains the state's largest private-sector employer and contributes more than \$1 billion to the state's economy, CHENG said.

What he wouldn't say was whether the timing of Monday's press conference signaled an impending announcement from the two publicly traded companies.

"I can tell you, from my standpoint, it's June 25—and earnings reports come out really soon," he said. "So if you understand public corporations, then actions one way or the other some times happen after earnings reports."

IBM is scheduled to announce its second quarterly earnings on July 17.

CHENG's proposals, which include economic incentives and workforce training programs, were discussed up by GEBC but Gov. PETER SHUMLIN said earlier Monday that his administration would "certainly be exploring good choices" of the plan. Shumlin's new wife, a daughter-in-law of former Gov. PHILIP WATSON, attended CHENG's press conference and walked up to the podium midway through to add her two cents.

"The governor has been in touch with the leadership of IBM and at GlobalFoundries to say 'We're ready for a dialogue when you are,'" Monahan said. "They are very careful that they know the door is open with Gov. Shumlin, with his administration, but that they're not in a position to talk."

Now, like the governor, he can't wait to discuss his conversations with two public companies engaged in high-stakes

negotiations. But ever since word surfaced last winter that IBM was putting its chip division on the auction block, his administration has been scrambling to show that it's focused on creating and retaining jobs.

Just 11 days after the Wall Street Journal reported in April that GlobalFoundries had "emerged as the leading candidate" to buy the division, Shumlin proposed a \$4.5 million Vermont Enterprise Incentive Fund clearly geared toward IBM or its successor. With approval from top legislators, that money can be dispensed to companies controlling hiring, relocating or shedding jobs.

So simply every press conference he's held since has been focused on jobs, jobs, jobs—including Monday's launch of what his office are calling a "Solar Summer Tour" designed to highlight the job-creating potential of his state-wide energy policies. The gov can barely get out a sentence

will be driven by global market forces and shareholder demands—not by the few million bucks the state can scrounge up from beneath the crunch cushion.

A better question is what exactly the administration has done—other than open options of compensation—to prepare for a change in ownership. On that, Monahan's response was pretty negative.

"I mean, there are so many contingencies it's almost impossible to put together a plan," she said. "But we've faced plant closings in the past, and we're ready to respond with appropriate resources for affected people."

Despite dire predictions, Monahan said it's entirely possible the state "could hear news that's positive for Vermont."

"I sincerely doubt that 4,000 people are going to get pink slips overnight," she said. "And so I believe that they will do to prepare it. In fact, there is a decision to clear that plant."

## Rabbit, Run

For much of Thursday's Republican State Committee meeting, gubernatorial candidate SCOTT BAILEY lurked in the back of the Montpelier Elks Country Club, taking in the scene.

Before him, party leaders discussed how to bolster the party's meager fundraising apparatus, support its legislative candidates and reverse the loss of Sen. Richard Blumenthal's seat. Bailey, a former state legislator, was called a "sleeper" from relevance. Key to the party chairman said, was ending the widespread feeling that his divided and distracted the GOP in recent years.

"Almost this year, we have seen potential donors turn away from the party due to negativity, confusion and what one large donor said was 'a failure of some to see the value of success of others,'" Blumenthal said.

As the meeting wrapped up, a party member made a motion to hear from the statewide candidates in the room. After Mr. Gov. WEAVER and fellow gubernatorial candidate STEPHEN WALKER addressed the crowd of 75, Mike took the turn.

"I think there's an opportunity to win," he said, launching into a conventional, three-minute stump speech focused on combating the "Democratic supermajority" and restoring balance to Montpelier.

Then something strange happened. Mike digressed into a four-minute, harrowing discourse on his youthful adventures buying rabbits in Wales and raising them for sale.

"If you're not making money, I mean, you can make a lot of money if you can figure out how to sell them," he said to nervous laughter.

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PAT MULLOON

without mentioning Vermont's second-highest-unemployment rate.

Whether a chat talk will include his spent changes that he preside over the departure of "Vermont's most important business remains to be seen. But you can bet that, with an election nearly four months away, his critics won't stay quiet.

One of them, Vermont Republican Party chairman DAVID SHUMBLIN, says Shumlin's "lack of attention" to IBM's transportation infrastructure and the price of electricity has contributed to its potential exit. He also criticizes Shumlin for heading to Chicago this week for a Democratic Governors Association fundraiser, after which he plans to take a five-day vacation.

"What I think is most concerning is that while a good portion of Chittenden County and most of Vermont is on gas and we're listening the word about what might happen to thousands of jobs, our governor is on his way to a fundraising event for the next two days, followed by time off," Shumlin says. "We need a governor who will roll up his sleeves and fight for jobs."

Next, the optics aren't great, but it's not like these jobs would be any safer if Shumlin spent the week putting around the fifth floor of the Portion State Office Building, talking to his doctors and visiting in his old IBM CEO's office. Whether Big Blue sells to GlobalFoundries

Milne went on to describe how much his out-of-state relatives enjoyed watching his specimens capsize.

"One of their favorite activities, my two older sons, when they came to Vermont, was to sit in front of the tank cages from Wisconsin and watch rabbits head," he said. After the meeting came to a close, Milne asked a small group of reporters in the parking lot outside, "How do you think the rabbits having sex like went over in there?"

"I thought it was, uh, a novel approach," one reporter ventured.

"I own a couple of people sort of gynecologists," Milne confessed.

And then he branched into the story again.

"She just loved sitting in front of that cage, watching the rabbits have sex," Milne said. "It was just so funny."

## Ready for ... Bernie?

SEN. BERNARD SANDERS (I-Vt.) pro-presidential campaign continues this weekend with another trip to the distant first-in-the-nation primary state of New Hampshire. He's scheduled to speak Saturday at a bookstore in Warner and at the Hillsborough County Democratic Committee's Greenmarket Market in Milford.

Just before Sanders shifts his focus to the Granite State, he might consider teaching base with his colleagues in Vermont's three-run congressional delegation. In fact, they would more inclined to support former secretary of state **HILLARY CLINTON**.

"I told her if she decided to run I would support her and would be willing to do whatever she likes," Sen. **PETER LEAHY** (I-Vt.) told Vermont Public Radio's **AM NEWHART** last week recounting a conversation he had with Clinton in October 2012. "She made no secret of that ever since then."

And what about his **PETER WELCH** (I-Vt.)?

"Peter said he will wait and see who runs before he decides who he will support," Welch's spokeswoman **ANNE HENRIK** tells Seven Days. "He hopes Secretary Clinton does run and believes Senator Sanders will bring an important and credible voice for working Americans to the campaign should he choose to go in."

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## Spin City

The Montpelier lobbying firm Stronken & Neumann lost its senior partner to the Vermont Senate in January, when Shantlin appointed lobbyist **ANDREW SANDERSON** to fill a seat vacated by his late wife, **SALLY PETER**.

Now the Senate is losing an all-star staffer to Stronken's old firm, the newly reformed Neumann Group. Joining the lobby deep July 1 is a managing senior associate in **ROBERTA SANDERSON** who spent the past two years essentially running the Senate, as President Pro Tem **JAMES CAMPBELL**'s chief of staff.

"I've known Roberta and observed her career for 20 years," says firm president **ANDREW NEUMANN**. "She's an excellent strategic communicator, manager and a warm and welcoming person."

The Albatross native and Vermont Law School and previously served as an attorney and legislative liaison in former governor **NORMAN GILLES**' administration and to Welch's assistant, back when he helmed the Senate.

"It's the best firm in the area, and I'm fortunate to be a part of it," Kansas says. "The clients they represent, the campaigns they work on and the people that make up the firm are all respected and have integrity and care about Vermont."

Those clients include Renewable Energy Vermont, the Montpelier Policy Project, Comcast and several labor unions. How soon the passage through Montpelier's ever-opening revolving door?

"It is the nature of the business," Kansas says, noting that she took a month off between leaving the Senate and joining the firm. "Relationships are a part of any business, whether you're a press person or you own a coffee shop."

For her part, Neumann says he never approached Kansas about a job while the legislature was in session.

"Roberta joining our team is not really dependent on her most recent position," he says. "Her career and talent is what she brings."

## Media Notes

Criticism has plummeted at the Burlington Press Free Press, but subscription prices are on the rise.

Last month, Seven Days reported that weekday print circulation at Vermont's longest-running daily had dropped nearly 21 percent in the past year. Starting July 1, the price of home delivery will jump just as precipitously for many customers.

How much appears to vary from household to household. One subscriber who contacted Seven Days said his daily home delivery was increasing from \$19.75 to \$26 a month — that's \$237 to \$348 a year. Another said his was up from \$22.57 to \$26 a month, while a third increased just \$2, to \$22 a month.

Those hikes are on top of a 31 percent increase the paper announced two years ago. Under backfires, when the Free Press announced the price spike alongside a mouth-bally-bloody rollout, many a word has been posted in Vermont's paper of record about this increase. Instead, word came by an even more ancient medium, email.

"We don't take this action lightly but believe that this rate for receiving direct delivery of local news in whatever format you prefer is a reasonable value," Gazette vice president for customer service **KARRINA DUNN** wrote.

Burlington Free Press publisher **JIM TULLER** declined to comment. ☐



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## Coming Home to Roost: Burlington Updates Its Ag and Livestock Rules

BY KATHRYN FLADD

**Q**uare City Council sat up and took notice when Burlington's code enforcement team busted Will Dennington and his roommates for having too many chickens back in 2010. Was it really so egregious to keep a flock of 10 laying hens in their Old North End backyard?

It turned out that there weren't any rules on the books specifically pertaining to so-called "urban agriculture" within city limits. That left code enforcement to set on a literal interpretation of the one rule in Burlington statute governing limits on animals — an old kennel ordinance that requires residents to get a license to keep more than four animals.

"At it is now, there is nothing saying you couldn't have four cows in your backyard," said Alison Nisbet, the co-chairman of Burlington's Food Council. Conversely, though, the rules have kept some backyard chicken owners from expanding their flocks to provide enough eggs for their families.

What's going on? Burlington needs agriculture rules based on common sense and best practices — not arbitrary numbers.

Those rules could be coming, and soon. After a years-long effort to draft new ordinances, the Urban Agriculture Task Force is poised to hand off a menu of proposed rules to the city council this week. If approved, they would allow for Burlington residents to keep more livestock based on the size of their lots, and in some cases slaughter animals on their own property — if they meet criteria designed to protect animals' welfare, respect neighbors' rights and ensure public health.

"Right now, as it is, I've heard people have a lot of confusion," said Nisbet. "Am I even allowed to have chickens? Can I do that? Can I do that?"

The goal: Eliminate that ambiguity and encourage quality practices.

Under the proposed guidelines, Burlington residents would be allowed to keep chickens, goats, sheep, camels such as alpacas and llamas, donkeys, and horses — provided owners meet regulations specifying the space and housing requirements of those animals. The task force sought to strike a delicate balance between sanctioning what'd be backyard farmers and respecting the realities of high-density neighborhoods.

That welcome news to Dan Gossens,

a Burlington resident who keeps a small flock of laying hens — more than the city currently allows, he acknowledged, but not enough to bother neighbors. In fact, his neighbors have been so unbothered at Gossens's chickens that one offered to host the flock while Gossens's home was

Gossens doesn't believe Burlington's current four-animal limit makes sense. Even during peak laying times, Gossens says, a quartet of chickens produces a total of two or three eggs a day — not enough for a family. Variables such as lot size, proximity to neighbors and comp-

to the natural world, the larger agricultural ecosystem and their rural roots.

"To be able to have a taste of life more on an urban environment is really important to us," said Gossens.

The proposed rules dive into the gritty of livestock handling,



under recreation. Another was inspired to start his own backyard flock.

"They escape occasionally," said Gossens, "and everyone's very good-natured about getting them back into our yard."

she should be considered, he said, noting some people have room for bigger flocks.

For Gossens and his wife, who both grew up in Vermont, keeping chickens — as well as growing food in a large back yard/garden — is a way to stay connected

to rural life, and the need for vaccination or other health requirements.

Bill Ward, Burlington's director of code enforcement, acknowledged that



some will balk at any new rules or regulations. He said the ordinances aren't designed to be onerous, and that most of the regulations will seem like "sensitive areas" to someone interested in farming responsibly.

"We want it to be something that people can do, but not something that people just put up on a whim and think, 'I'm going to throw a bunch of animals in my backyard and run a farm,'" said Ward. The proposal rules are designed to keep the potential negatives of backyard livestock and slaughter — including the possibilities of unpleasant odors or noise — at bay.

In his four years on the job, Ward has noticed increased interest in urban agriculture. For example, more people are calling city hall with questions about keeping backyard chickens.

Anthony Iannapino, a senior attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation, thanks the city's direct response to national trends in agriculture.

Iannapino, who helped the task force draft the language for the proposed ordinance, said people want to know where their food is coming from and how it's produced.

"There's just a real growing appetite for people to have some connection with the food they're eating, and to increase the visibility of food that does not depend on fossil fuels to make it from Point A to Point B," said Iannapino.

The task force's recommendations go beyond livestock and slaughter. The city council's ordinance committee already has in hand a set of proposed updates that advocates hope will encourage more food production within city limits. Zoning tweaks would allow farmers markets in almost every part of the city, which would encourage neighborhood-scale markets. The siting of structures exempt from zoning permits would increase so that most modest chicken coops, small greenhouses, hoophouses

and rooftop gardens could be built without a prior approval. The proposal also includes incentives for builders who incorporate gardening space in their developments. The city council has held off on digging into those proposals so far — waiting instead for the board of health to finalize the livestock and slaughter recommendations. Board member David Casey estimated that those last pieces would fall into place by the end of this week.

The rules around urban agriculture — or lack thereof — vary in Vermont's other urban centers. Winooski requires permits for all animals other than domestic dogs and cats. Its city council grants final approval for keeping chickens, and applicants must attend a council meeting to seek that approval. Would-be chicken owners need to provide information on the number and origin of the chickens, along with health certificates and a plan to keep chickens contained and predators at bay.

Meanwhile, the animal ordinances in Vermont's capital city are fairly antiquated. "It's not busy year horse," is how Montpelier planning and zoning assistant Andrea Brown jokingly summed up the 1972 ordinance. Today, Brown said, residents used to be aware that certain structures, fences or sheds may require a permit, depending on their size — but other than that, she said, "There aren't many 'You can garden your heart out'."

Brown said that small, portable chicken coops are increasingly popular in Montpelier. A pig lived at a home just off of Main Street last year. Drives down Elm Street, she said, and a passerby will notice large gardens, raised beds, chickens, and even miniature goats and sheep. (The sheep are hers.)

Said Brown: "It's not bothering people, who care?" ☐

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# Do Divorcing Vermont Couples Get 'Ownership' or 'Custody' of the Family Pet?

BY KEN FIGARO

**S**hould pets be considered property—like a house—or a co-creation to be shared like minor children? The case of an 11-year-old German wirehaired pointer has been challenging Vermont's courts—including its highest—to decide whether "ownership" or "custody" laws apply to divorcing partners fighting over a mutually beloved animal.

Court records indicate that Daniel Hammet and his ex-wife, Laura Baker, had no minor children and were able to work out the distribution of their other property and financial affairs when their divorce landed in family court last year. The only disagreement was who would get Belle, the couple's dog. Baker favored a split custody agreement, an arrangement that was not acceptable to Hammet.

Champlain Superior Court Judge Linda Levitt told the pair that the primary factor should be use in deciding Belle's fate: would be which spouse had been "more active" in caring for the dog during the marriage. Hammet, a veterinarian at Richwood Animal Hospital, was used to taking Belle to work every day at the animal clinic. For her part, Baker routinely took the dog for long walks in the woods and was very involved in Belle's daily care. Levitt informed them that family court would not enforce a shared visitation schedule, "even if the parties agreed to it."

Ultimately, Levitt awarded the dog to the husband. While she found that other people could provide Belle with a happy and healthy life, she gave a slight edge to Hammet because the dog had grown accustomed to the routine of going to work with him every day. Notably, Levitt also



determined that the husband "treats the dog like a dog," whereas the wife is more doting and treats the dog "like a child." The court concluded that the dog would do better with the husband's "balanced attitude toward the animal."

Baker appealed the decision to the Vermont Supreme Court. She contended that the court had erred in refusing to consider a permanent joint ownership arrangement, similar to the one the couple had agreed to temporarily during the divorce proceedings.

Baker also argued that the basis for awarding the dog to her ex-husband was arbitrary and inconsistent with previous high-court rulings, which had recognized that family pets are property but a "special property" and thus should be

trusted differently in divorce proceedings than, say, insurance objects.

In its April ruling, the Vermont Supreme Court disagreed. It upheld the lower court's decision and also ruled that the state's family courts shouldn't wade into the thorny business of enforcing visitation schedules and shared custody arrangements for pets.

"Unlike child custody matters," the high court wrote, "there is no legislative authority for the court to play a continuing role in the supervision of the parties with respect to the care and sharing of a companion animal."

Baker's attorney, Nancy Smith of Williston, says she was disappointed that the justices weren't willing to make a "bright line rule" clarifying the special

property status of pets. If animals are property but special property, she argues, they ought to be treated specially in the eyes of the law. In short, if the courts are willing to enforce other post-judgment orders on marital property, such as the sale of a house, then they should also consider enforcing joint ownership and care of family pets.

"But because you're getting divorced, it doesn't seem the same as giving the guns to somebody," Smith says. "It's severing an emotional connection that we all value as a society and the Supreme Court has valued in other contexts."

Hammet's attorney, Matt Buckley, agrees that the Supreme Court didn't really establish any new case law with this decision. But with other courts





around the country have moved in the direction of allowing or even ordering shared ownership arrangements of animals, he says, evidently the Vermont Supreme Court "didn't want to go there."

While the furry pet may be a special form of property, he says, it's not property nonetheless that must be allocated to one party.

"Everybody in the courtroom that day were dog lovers," Buckley points out. "I bring a dog to my office every day. Judge Levitt has a dog, Nancy Smith brings her dog to the office. So everyone, in there appreciated the emotional significance of what was being decided."

There's some precedent here. In 2009's *Schultz and Schultz v. Duxton*, plaintiffs Sarah and Devin Schultz sought to recover more than \$4,000 in damages for the severe emotional distress, pain and suffering, and loss of companionship they suffered when Lauren Duxton deliberately shot and killed their dog, Shadow. Though the couple's unbroken dog had clearly wandered on Duxton's property, it had displayed no aggressive or threatening behavior that would have justified Duxton's actions.

In its 2009 ruling, the Supreme Court acknowledged that an animal's worth is not primarily financial but its value "derives from the animals' relationship with its human companions ... Indeed, we have suggested that the nonetheless economic calculus of property law may not fully compensate a mourning pet owner."

That said, the high court wasn't willing to go so far as to grant financial damages to the plaintiffs similar to those awarded to, say, parents who lose a child and then file a wrongful death claim for loss of companionship. Ultimately, the *Schultz* case was \$155 for the financial loss of their pet but offering extra for the emotional pain and

trauma of seeing him shot and killed.

Thus far, no state has recognized furry pets and companion animals as anything more than just property, albeit special property that that could change over time, says guest Linda Ackerman, a California-based attorney and mediator whose firm, Pet Custody Solutions, specializes in animal custody disputes.

As Ackerman points out, various animal rights activists around the country have advocated for stronger legal rights for companion animals that,

in some cases, take into consideration as best as can be determined what the animal itself would want. For example, she points to the case of a Florida man who brought a habeas corpus pleading in New York for promises that were being kept in inhumane conditions.

Ackerman likes the move to gay marriage, which involving and hard-fought over decades. As she puts it, "The law will find a way to justify what has achieved some kind of critical mass in public opinion."

If her niche legal practice is any indicator, Ackerman may be on to something. She says animal custody disputes have a lot in common with child custody cases, especially when the couple has no children. Shared pet custody arrangements work well for some couples, she adds, especially when it comes to addressing end-of-life issues, such as shared vet bills and deciding on the right time to euthanize an ailing pet.

It's worth noting that virtually all the animal custody disputes Ackerman has either handled or heard about have involved dogs. As she put it, only half-jokingly, "Cats decide for themselves where they go."

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# Way Out of Africa, a High-Contrast Creature Roams in the Green Mountain State

BY AUCIA FRIESE

**E**very day, when she gets home from work, Deborah Osgood crosses a covered bridge and heads up to the barn to let her livestock out to graze. A pair of white ducks huddle by the pond, two dogs mill around nearby. Two horses and six cats are missing in action.

Up at the barn, Osgood goes stall to stall, lifting the latches. Out over two miniature goats, a brown and white dachshund, an Appaloosa pony and a black and white ... zebra.

The vivid stripes look comically incongruous against the green pasture, bascule barn and covered bridge. Yet he nibbles clover alongside the others, quies at home southwest of Rutland. Osgood and her husband, Kevin, bought their house, off Route 106 in Reading, in 1979. They own a wedding company and have three daughters who have settled nearby.

What possessed this otherwise seemingly typical Vermont family to buy a wild African beast?

It's normal for children to poster their parents for a kitten or puppy, but in the Osgood household, Deborah was the one pleading — for a much more impractical animal.

Sitting at her kitchen table inside the ornate plastered house, she offers the simplest possible explanation: "I've always liked zebras."

Zebra-enthusiast animals like the kinger windows, zebra-striped rain boots sit by



Zebra

**I'VE ALWAYS LIKED ZEBRAS.**

DEBORAH OSGOOD

the door. She's wearing a cordless floral sundress, but Osgood assures there are plenty of zebra print items in her wardrobe.

About a decade ago, the Osgoods purchased the land across the road from their house, which gave them about 300 acres. "And I said to my husband, 'Now I can have my zebra,'" Deborah recalls. Which, she adds, "was a joke at the time."

But as they cleared the land, she began researching local breeders and found other people who kept zebras in Rutland, Calif. According to its website, Spirit N Stripes "exists purpose" in zebra research, but it also sells zebras

and horses and runs training camps for prospective owners.

Her husband was agreeable. "He thought I was crazy, but he said, 'Whatever,'" Osgood's daughters — the youngest was about 10 at the time — were skeptical at first.

After a year and a half on a waiting list, the Osgoods got a call saying the next zebra barn would be theirs. "So we decided to get going on building a barn," Osgood said, and they flew to Rutland to take a three-day course on caring for the African animal. Zeas is a plains zebra, one of three different species. When he was 10 weeks old, one of the ranch owners drove him in a trailer from California — where his parents were born — all the way to Vermont. The Osgoods had just finished his barn stall.

Now 7 years old, 14 hands high

and about 500 pounds, Zeas is happy munching on horse feed — hay, grass, goats and apples as a treat.

Is it even legal to own a zebra in Vermont?

Under state law, zebras are classified as equines — not canines — animals, which means regulation is the same as for a horse or a mule. Osgood said the state's only regulation was that Zeas' fencing be built at least six feet high. Zebras, apparently can jump.

It's possible Zeas is the lone zebra in convulsed Vermont. State officials within the Fish & Wildlife Department and Agency of Agriculture were not familiar with Zeas and said they didn't know whether any other zebras live in the state.

The Agency of Agriculture does keep a database of imported equine animals,

but according to state veterinarian Kristin Hines, it doesn't distinguish between a zebra and a horse.

Zebra has never been truly domesticated, but Zeas and Osgood have a rapport. She holds up her right hand in front of Zeas' muzzle and requests a "kiss," and the zebra complies with a lassy slurp of his tongue.

Zeas had learned 10 commands by the time he arrived in Vermont — simple things like "hello," "come to" and "back up."

He could have been trained for riding, according to Osgood, but she's never been interested and so never went that route.

She describes Zeas as "docile and sweet" and says, "I clearly have more as being like a dog friend to me than a horse friend."



Dawn's Daughter is in Zeus

But he's still a wild animal — a fact Osgood readily admits. There was that time Zeus broke three of her ribs.

"He flattened me, and it was all my own fault. I spoke to him and he had no idea I was behind him and I had a big thing of hay and the hay made a noise and he just back lashed me. He had no idea and was extremely apologetic."

And then there was the time she took him out for a walk when he was six months old and feeling "especially frisky." Zeus took off, dragging her along until she dropped the rope.

Osgood shares off the episodes as laughing experiences, and she said Zeus has since matured. "We had a lot of growing pains together, but he is my best friend."

Zeus doesn't like winter. The Osgoods outfitted their barn with radiant heat, and he doesn't venture out during the cold months. He doesn't like water, either, or the woods. When the Osgoods are home, they let him roam because a fence and a stream — neither of which he'll venture into — border their property.

On this particular day, Zeus paces nervously in his stall, peacefully decorated by a stranger and the click of a camera. Osgood laughs at his antics, strokes his back and puts her face against his muzzle. But when she pulls

out a new red grooming brush, he seems taken aback and dodges her attempts.

Osgood says Zeus likes being brushed but she has to train him to accept any new object.

He gets along well with the other three animals and is content to let

Pachira, an Appaloosa who is about half his size, ride the show. "She's the only female, and she rules. She says 'her head and she says her tail,' and the boys fall into line," Osgood said, "just like that."

Zeus isn't cheap — Osgood politely declined to share Zeus' price, but she offered a ballpark figure: \$15,000. The training is laborious, and ownership is a long-term commitment. Osgood said it's not uncommon for adults to live to 40. Luckily, she's got reliable babysitters when she and her husband leave town — her daughters — and she keeps them passing about which one will inherit Zeus.

Especially during foliage season, the Osgoods get a steady stream of uninvited visitors inquiring about the out-of-place animal on the hill. After seven years, all the attention has gotten old, Osgood said, but she tries to be a good sport about it. And it's hard to fault the girls: It's not often that you can get a zebra and a covered bridge in the same shot. ☺

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# Landlocked Vermont Hosts a Gathering of Controversial 'Sea Shepherds'

BY AUCIA FREESE

Last Saturday, more than 100 people—nearly all of them wearing black—sat in the shade of a tent on a sun-drenched estate in South Woodstock watching video footage of the famed shark carcasses. Parked in front of a nearby barn was an RV emblazoned with a giant Jelly Roger.

Landlocked Vermont played host to the first global gathering of a group of hardline anti-whaling poaching activists: the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

The Sea Shepherds, whose brazen tactics were captured on the Animal Planet reality show "Whale Wars," are best known for using "direct action" to threaten Japanese whaling ships in the Antarctic Ocean. Direct action, in this case, refers to everything from ramming whaling ships to throwing stink bombs on board.

There was a lot of haggling on the first morning of the three-day summit. Some attendees had spent months together at sea in hot humid seas on other continents. They had come from Texas and Virginia and places farther afield—Canada, South Africa, Brazil, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Sea Shepherd critics—including one U.S. federal judge—have described them as "perverts" and some teased, turned and men visually fit the bill. But they mingled with a number from Seattle, a blood fight attendee from Australia, twins in overalls, sunglasses, leggings and red lipstick, elderly men, and other ordinary-looking people.

Concentration was less ordinary. "He taught me to arrange during the 1880 seal campaign" a woman in her sixties said, pointing to Al "Zee" Johnson, a retired American Airlines pilot who looks the part—blue-tinted contacts, periwinkle cardigan slung over his shoulder, black polo, crossed knees.

Also overheard: "When I was in Malaysia last week doing coral propagation."

Away from the socializing, a portly, white-haired man in a blue shirt sat watching his granddaughter play with a plate of cherries. Paul Watson, a controversial activist, was in—was of



A Sea Shepherd vessel. Steve Irwin recently collided with the Russian Navy.

**PAUL WATSON —  
CULT HERO AND  
CELEBRITY DARLING  
— LIVES IN VERMONT NOW.**

the most notorious environmental activists in the world. The 64-year-old landed on INTERPOL's Red Notice list after Japan and Costa Rica accused him of damaging property and breaking into a vessel.

Watson started the Sea Shepherds in the '70s, after Greenpeace expelled him for being too radical. He said he likes to think of his group as "the ladies of the night of the conservation movement" because "people agree with us, but they don't want to be seen with us." The group's identity remains very much centered with its "sea warrior" in-chief, and members gathered here last weekend because Watson lives in Vermont now.

He's been land-based since December 2012, when Japan succeeded in bringing an injunction against him and Sea Shepherd USA, preventing both the man and the organization from approaching within 500 feet of their ships. Fifteen years later, the International Court of Justice denied Japan's whaling trips illegal, but Watson and his still

had to ride his spot at the organization's helm out of legal necessity.

In response, the group has been confronting international efforts. It's already active in 40 countries, according to Watson, and Sea Shepherd Australia has become its largest operation. Each affiliate is legally distinct by design—so one lawsuit can't bring down the whole organization—and the summit was intended to share information and strengthen ties between them. A cluster of tents, where most members were camping, occupied a nearby blade.

The overarching message of the weekend Sea Shepherd is a movement, not a man or an organization. And that "movement" has an operating budget of roughly \$12 million, Watson said in an interview. It also has 2,000 affiliates from people who want to crew the five Sea Shepherd ships. Total membership? "I have no idea," Watson said. Other staffers couldn't provide specific numbers, either.

Members spent most of Saturday under the white tent, going briefly to corner Sea Shepherd campaigns documenting dolphin slaughter in Japan; opposing shark finning in China; working

with the Senegalese government to stop fish poachers.

"I can wake up in the morning and hear about a Sea Shepherd campaign I didn't even know about," Watson told the crowd.

Roger Payne, the biologist who discovered that humpback whales sing, was there. He's a longtime whale conservationist and adviser to the Sea Shepherds.

Johnson, who's been a Sea Shepherd since the start—his left Greenpeace when Watson was ousted—made the trek from Vancouver. In his younger days, he said, he painted-bombed a Soviet ship, flew across for seal campaigns and dropped parachutists onto a nuclear power plant. Asked for further detail, he responded, "Oh, you can google the rest of it." These days, he's on standby—"Time to step aside for the younger people."

Younger people such as Peter Hummerich of Sweden. He joined the Sea Shepherds on a deckhand when he was 16, worked his way up to be Watson's first mate and then, three years ago, became captain. Now 28, he's been on all nine of Sea Shepherd's Antarctic campaigns against Japanese whalers.

With his bejaded face, glasses and



Paul Watson greets fellow Shepherds in Woodstock

spine, facial hair, Hammettschuck looks more like a software engineer than a captain, but he's proven his skills at sea. During a recent Antarctic campaign, he steered his ship in between a whaling vessel and a tanker, preventing the former from refueling. Dramatic footage shows the Sea Shepherd ship, *Bark Barker*, colliding repeatedly with the two much larger vessels.

Not all the presentations were as harrowing as Hammettschuck's. Gary Stokes of Hong Kong, who's leading the campaign against shark hunting in China, spoke about his efforts to persuade companies such as Gap Inc. to stop advertising shark cartilage supplements. "It's not slipping around in a Zodiac," Stokes identified, referencing the activist organization's heart brand of choice.

Kristen Hill joined the group four months ago as an "on-shore volunteer" in Mississippi. After day jobs, the work is marketing for American Financial. Wearing a necklace with a whaling harpoon pendant, she admits watching "White Wars" makes her anxious.

"We evolve in accordance with the imagination of the moment," Watson said during an interview. Today, the Sea Shepherds are partnering with the songwriter and producer Maxwell Williams in what Watson described as "our most ambitious campaign right now." The Sea Shepherds' task is to figure out how to extract plastics from the ocean. Williams' rule is to make clothing from it.

The group's whale rescues have always overshadowed this sort of its work, Watson said, but they also help backfill less compelling campaigns. "We just rescued someone off the coast of Italy. No one wants to talk about that."

Watson speaks in seamless run-on sentences, blending apocalyptic statements — "The oceans are dying, and

"if the oceans die, we die" — with political commentary. "Tony Abbott makes George Bush look like a caring intellectual," he said, taking a swipe at Australia's prime minister.

While ridiculed, Watson is writing his seventh and eighth books, one of which describes a Confederate campaign to sink Union whaling vessels that had the inadvertent effect of saving those species of whales from extinction, according to the author. "My rule model is James Wadell, the captain of the *Shenandoah*. He sank 37 whaling ships, didn't hurt anybody."

The only water in sight on Saturday was a pool, and swimming wasn't permitted — "The ponds belong to the frogs, and they don't like your sunscreen," Watson told the group. Pithy Singh and Ann Johnston, longtime Sea Shepherd supporters, offered up their land for the event. The owners of a real estate development company in the Florida Keys, the couple met Watson more than two decades ago when he was in the Keys looking for a place to put his ship. Singh and Johnston let him tie up at their dock.

Planned activities throughout the weekend included a dress demonstration — Shepherds use them for rescue and to take photos — meditation time, a talk on veganism and a "Mada 101" session. Between the reality TV show and the 2007 *New Yorker* profile of Watson, it seems the Shepherds are getting plenty of publicity.

On that subject, Watson overrode his own media director, who asked *Seven Days* not to reveal where he's living. Both Woodstock. "She's personal," said Watson, winking at her concern. "I'm not worried for anything in this country." ☺

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OBITUARIES, VOWS  
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## OBITUARIES



### Betty Joanne Michaels 1922-2016 BURLINGTON

Betty Michaels (nee Hayes), the little divergent funny, vivacious of Burlington and left us early in the morning on June 17, 2016. Her uncompromising 93 year old heart truly evened her anxious will to live.

She was born in Covington Kentucky on October 29, 1922 where she spent her first five years. Her parents then moved her to Cincinnati with her brother as she started school. As a teenager she enjoyed her mother's piano playing and called visiting, but her favorite activity was always swimming.

She graduated from Logansport College and the University of Cincinnati with a master's degree in French. She then attended Middlebury College and received a master's in French in 1945. She turned down a school away from her hometown as she felt she had attended enough school.

Her early jobs included being a teacher in Miami and working in the store at Xavier University back in Cincinnati where she met her husband, Jim. She hung around the dorm after to talk with her and went to her as he attended music to see her approval.

Engaged six weeks later they married on June 10, 1950. Are pronounced for over 60 years on June 10, August 23, 2009.

In their early married years, she followed her husband, the chemistry professor to New Orleans for two years, then to Vermont where he was offered a position at State Polytechnic College. Together they raised five children, two of whom survive her.

She returned to school one more time to Middlebury to refresh her Spanish so that she could teach at Mt. Mansfield Union High School for 11 years. She spent her summers either sailing on Lake Champlain or watching her daughters in horse shows. After retirement, she and Jim visited England and started a long several summer helping care for their grandchildren. An tip Dennis Anna Dennis Kennedy, Alex, Ian and Iris.

Caregivers: Jeff Carter, Laura Michaels-Brewer and Anna Michaels. She also found time to return to her passion for gardening.

During her lifetime, she was regularly at the Rogers' Log and was thrilled when she received a life membership on June 30.

We will remember her for her strong sense of family, her enveloping good nature, her sense of humor and her Sunday dinners, and we hope remembered her on every holiday since. We know we loved her to the last of shopping.

Besides her grandchildren, she leaves her daughters: Gail, Dennis and Anne; Bruce, Carl, Margy, Anne, Mark and husband Betty; Jennifer and Kathleen; Murray and wife; and other Dan McDermott. She also leaves her favorite son Bill Michaels and wife Tracy.

The family offers deepest thanks to the caregivers at Burlington Health and Rehab and to her special caregiver, Denise Mitzelberg. Condolences may be made to the Greenleaf Funeral Home in Jericho.

Visiting hours were held on Sunday, June 19 at the LaRigue Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 132 Main Street, Burlington with a Memorial Christian Burial on Monday, June 20 at 11 AM, Plus Calvary Church in Essex Center. Online condolences may be viewed at [www.lariguenfuneralservice.com](http://www.lariguenfuneralservice.com).

### Guy Mongoon 1924-2014, COLCHESTER

Guy Mongoon, 89, passed away peacefully on June 16, 2016. He was born September 3, 1926 to August and Alice (Jennings) Mongoon. He served in the Army Air Corps during WWII and was a member of the BFW. Guy enjoyed reading, working, gardening and especially the senior trips to the coast.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Christine (daughter Suzanne Bland, son Thomas (Pete), Mongoon; and daughter Mary (Bobbie) Soudine, long grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first son, John and second and last son, in law Robert and Thomas Sullivan.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Green Mountain Nursing Home and Ann Bus and her dog, Miley who brought him many hours of joy to Guy. Funeral services will be private. Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.lariguenfuneralservice.com](http://www.lariguenfuneralservice.com). Condolences may be made to the Green Mountain Nursing Home. Arrangements under the care of LaRigue Funeral Home and Cremation Service.



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# At Generator's First Social Hour, Makers Talk Tech, Ecology and Art

BY JIM CHILARD WAREN

**C**onversations about solving climate change and ecological destruction are heated around frequently in Vermont, but rarely do they involve the word "play." Yet when three dozen "makers"—individuals who use new technology to create innovative artistic or practical projects—gathered at an "Ron Logic MIT Forum" last week at Burlington's Generator, creative play and outside-the-box thinking were at the heart of the matter.

Makers, according to **KEN HOWELL**, a professor affiliated with the Champlain College **EMERGENT MEDIA CENTER'S** **MFA** program and a member of **VERMONT MAKERS**, "take play very seriously, and [believe that it's] a valuable tool for understanding systems, designs, objects and conceptions of the world." And while Howell jokes that makers do use strong technology such as 3-D printers to create toys, or replace toys, the need for creative solutions to thorny societal and ecological problems comes these creative types, and their cutting-edge technologies, in a more serious light.

**THE SOLUTIONS WE FIND  
FOR THE PROBLEMS WE'RE  
GOING TO FACE ARE REALLY  
UNKNOWNABLE FROM HERE,  
BUT THESE TECHNOLOGIES  
PLAY A BIG PART IN WHAT WE  
CAN WORK WITH.**

KEN HOWELL

"I think the solutions we find for the problems we're going to face are really unknownable from here, but these technologies play a big part in what we can work with," says Howell, whose talk at Ron Logic emphasized maker culture's experimental, DIY ethos as an antidote to runaway consumerism.

The Ron Logic Forum doubled as one of Vermont Makers' periodic (though irregular) meet-ups and as Generator's first "social hour," though attendance spilled around for at least three times that long. **CHERYL MITCHELL**, Generator's executive director, plans to hold regular



Makers at the Generator

social hours on the third Thursday of every month, each featuring a cash bar and a food truck. (Ron Logic attendees spent on lobster rolls from Wooden Spoon. Beir's track, July's second hour will feature Duke VT.)

Organized by **ANNE SCHWARTZ**, a local artist, educator and member of Vermont Makers, last week's event featured talks on economics, art and maker culture by Champlain College professor **VALERIE SAVOURET**, Schwartz and Howell. The trio collectively posited that innovations in these areas—through importing "ecology" in each field—were necessary in order to avoid ecological destruction.

"The urgency of this time right now—with climate change and globalization and wanting to have some ability to affect things in a positive way—is part of why I'm interested in making things," says Schwartz, who for more than a year had been discussing up a Vermont Makers' meet-up with an ecological theme.

Repeats kicked off the evening with a discussion of "ecological economics," an emerging field that aims to shift the economic paradigm away from the classic model, which measures success based on profit margins and human-sourced labor alone. Ecological economics, by contrast, considers the interdependence of human systems with the natural ecosystem and its resources.

Schwartz presented a slideshow of art from around the world that tapped into

an understanding of human participation in complex and interdependent systems. These ranged from the periodic performance tactics of Istanbul's **Augusto Boal's** Theatre of the Oppressed to Schwartz's own biomorphic plastic sculptures, made from her accumulated recyclables.

Howell's discussion on maker culture and technology's potential to create on demand, local economies—and to find creative solutions to non-market dependency—completed the evening.

In a rural state that still can't guarantee great cellphone service and high-speed internet in all its pockets, finding cutting-edge machines such as a laser cutter, a 3-D printer, and workstations for 3-D modeling and app development at Generator may seem monolithic at first. But Howell points out that maker culture and Vermont culture are compatible. "The core of this is something that's very Vermont, which is self-reliance and inventive use, and making do with what you have, as opposed to what you can go and purchase," he says.

Burlington is quickly becoming a maker's town. Just three years ago, when a cluster of individuals dubbed themselves the Vermont Makers and began meeting to discuss emerging technologies and their own creative work, few would have known what the word "makers" meant. Now the Queen City is home to not one but two maker spaces. Both Generator and



The City Makers

Champlain College's MakerLab opened their doors earlier this year.

Mitchell, who also owns **S.P.A.C.E.** and **Isaacspice** galleries on Pine Street, suggests the technologies in the lab tap artistic creativity, too. "I'm coming from the arts side, and to come in here and have all of these tools—I can then go to artists every day and say, 'Why don't you come over here and play?'" she says. Weekly jewelry-making classes that employ six laser pointers are under way, and members can come in and use the technology for projects on their own time. Starting in July, Generator will offer a monthly residency for makers with a specific project to pursue.

Mitchell says that the public social hours will evolve based on need, the format will shift according to the event, though incoming and outgoing residents will always give presentations on their work. The idea is to draw in curious members of the public, and to further Generator's role as an incubator for innovative ideas and conversations in the community.

"It will also be an opportunity for people working at different times of the day to get together and meet each other," Mitchell adds, "and for them to network and show off what they're making to the public." ☐

**INFO**  
generatorvermont.com



# In Rochester, Musicians and Music Lovers Share Their Passion

BY AMY LILLY

When the Johannes String Quartet plays Beethoven's last quartet in the small burg of Rochester, Vt., on Saturday night, second violist Jessica Lee will be performing the piece for the first time. Not only can anything happen during a performance, she remarks, but the work itself is "really not there Beethoven. There's a lot in there and it's very condensed."

Lee is not worried, though. The quartet's audience will be the appreciative devotees of ROCHESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY concerts. Enthusiastic listeners have filled the Rochester Federated Church every year for the five summer series since pianist and artistic director CYNDIA HAARD began it 20 years ago. "[The audience] has become like a family," says Lee, a regular performer in the series, both with the Johannes and in a solo Beethoven concert last year. "They're so supportive, loving and passionate about the music."

Every musician wishes for such an audience, but RCMS concertgoers have reason to be so attentive. Bristol-based Haard, an affable artist at Middlebury College, and her band — particularly JAMES HARRIS, the former longtime chair of the liberal arts department at the Carle Institute in Philadelphia, who summers in Granville — stick the series with excellent musicians.

Johannes' members, for example, most of whom studied with Landis while training at Carle, formed at Marlboro 17 years ago. Violinist Steven Kim founded the LARK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL, Chong Jin (C.J.) Chang is the principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra and Peter Strong, principal cellist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. (Yes, a Concert Artists Guild International Competition winner, joined the group in 2006.) A concert by Kim and another Carle grad, Lithuanian pianist Ieva Jakubaviciute, opened the RCMS's 20th season.

Other highlights of the season, which runs through August 18, include a picnic-friendly concert by the HANCOCK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSIC SOCIETY in the Rochester Park Gazebo. "That's our thanks to the town that we've managed to stay there for 20 years," says Haard. Jakubaviciute, who trained in Austria and at the Indiana University School

## CLASSICAL MUSIC



Cyndia Haard

of Music, will perform in three concerts. These include the final one with soprano EMILY HARRIS and bassist GARY PRING, the young Warren couple who promote "community supported chamber music" through their MUSICMOUNTAIN MUSIC SERIES.

And the final Bash, an annual tradition, is an amateur professional collaboration concert performed after one intense, four-hour rehearsal. The Bash also draws Rochester's MUSIC MOUNTAIN MUSIC SERIES, a one-week summer camp for students of the Suzuki method. RCMS is a sponsor of the Institute.

The latter brings together so many young musicians from around the country and abroad that it takes over the town, says Haard. "Music happens everywhere — on porches, in the fields, outside if it is a sunny day."

That kind of accessibility is also the point of the summer series. Haard intends it to "introduce to the community that chamber music is not just high classical. It's not highbrow versus lowbrow, or should be music I like versus music I don't like."

Free, intimate and located in an adorable town, the Rochester Chamber Music Society offers a chance to listen and spare that shouldn't be missed. ☺

## INFO

The Johannes String Quartet, Saturday, June 28, 7 p.m., at Marlboro Federated Church. Free. Rochester Chamber Music Society's summer concert series runs through August 18 at seven venues.



PHOTO BY MARIA KOLLADO

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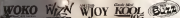
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## QUICK LIT: WRITING CONFERENCE WITH AGENTS; READINGS GALORE

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The **LEAGUE OF VERMONT WRITERS** aims to help writers answer these questions with a July 16 conference at the Hampton Inn Burlington called **Writers Meet Agents**. At the same in-state search agents are scheduled to attend representing companies such as Goodkind Inc. LLC and Harvard Northam Literary Agency. Besides attending group sessions with the pros, writers can sign up (for a fee) to pitch their completed books one-on-one.

The conference also offers presentations on various aspects of the craft. Vermont NA writer **JEANNE** will talk about revising; for instance, what **PETER HILL**, founder of the **BURLINGTON WRITERS IN DISCOVERY** will discuss how writers can get the most out of feedback. Meet/pitcher-based scenes will feature **DAVID HENNE**, whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*. The *New Yorker* and many other publications will deliver the keynote address.

Find registration info at [leagueofvermontwriters.org](http://leagueofvermontwriters.org).

Meanwhile, summer means authors outdoors everywhere!

The Northeast Kingdoms **BACK ROAD** **READINGS** series kicks off its second



Old New Gallery

season on July 6 with novelist **HOWARD NORMAN** and poet and essayist **JOHN PURNITT**. Next **ELLEN PRYNE** **POET** shows up on July 20, followed on July 27 by poets **JUDITH CHALKER**, **HICKS OWEN** and **NICOLE FERRARI**. All those events take place on Sunday afternoons in Burlington, but the series will also branch out this year with a Statehouse reading and reception honoring poet **HALEY ANNE** on August 7. Among the guests who will read their favorite Kinnell poems are Sharon Olds, Jane Hines and Michael Collier. Watch this space for more info.

To the south, Rochester's **RED OWNS GALLERY** has been running a reading series to highlight the local stellar summering writers since 2006. This year the gallery is co-sponsor along with Middlebury's year-round **WAX READING SERIES**—sponsored by the *New England Review*—on a special

event. On July 6, weekly published poets Tom Ford and Jamaica May will read their work followed by a critical reception in the garden (it's free, but attendees must RSVP). As the summer continues look for readings by novelist **HELENETTE POWER**, **REBECCA HAZARD** and Tracy Mann among others.

And starting this Sunday the **WINDHET CHALLENGE OF FIVE ARTS** will once again share the wealth of its facility and alumni in a public reading series accompanying its Summer MFA in Writing Residency. Among the guests is transgender author Alex Myers whose historical novel *Revolutionary* tells the story of his ancestor Deborah Samson, who disguised herself as a man to fight in the Continental Army. Earlier this year the *New York Times* called it "a bona fide and unforgettable Revolutionary War novel."

Also on the schedule are Barbara Hard and Emily Rababatz—both featured with Pushcart, Prizes and places in prominent anthologies for their creative nonfiction and fiction—and poet and translator Pidgeon.

So go out and get these books signed! Unfortunately, you'll soon no longer be able to buy them from **RUSSELL'S**

**BOOKS**, which will close its doors at the end of July after 42 years in business in a WCRA report, owner **ELIZABETH HALL** cited her inability to compete with online sales as a deciding factor. It's a sad sign of the times, and another reminder that browsing alone doesn't support indie bookstores—buying does.

MARGOT HARRISON

Contact: [margot@vermontreport.com](mailto:margot@vermontreport.com)

## INFO

**Writers Meet Agents Event**, Saturday July 16, at the Hampton Inn Burlington (in-chickadee Registration through June 30 \$400. \$100 for LW members. At 10 a.m. \$50. \$250 for LW members. Pitch sessions: \$25 each. [leagueofvermontwriters.org](http://leagueofvermontwriters.org)

**Back Roads Readings**, Sunday July 20 and 27, 2-3 p.m. (followed by reception and book signing at 4 p.m.) at the Burlington Village Congregational Church. Free. [backroadsreadings.com](http://backroadsreadings.com)

**A Celebration of the Life in Poetry of Gail Kinnell**, Thursday August 7, 3 p.m., at the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier. Free.

**NEA Venerating Big Towns Gallery Reading**, Sunday July 6, 5-8 p.m., at the Big Towns Gallery in Rochester, Free. RSVP to enroll [bigtownsgallery.com](http://bigtownsgallery.com). Register for group transportation from Middlebury (limited seating) at [middlebury.edu/celebrating-the-big-towns-gallery.com](http://middlebury.edu/celebrating-the-big-towns-gallery.com)

**Vermont College of Fine Arts Summer MFA in Writing Residency**, Sunday July 20 to Thursday July 31 various times in College Hill Drive, Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier. Free. [vtfinearts.org](http://vtfinearts.org)

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7/3 TH	<b>VSO SUMMER TOUR</b> Grifton Ponds	7/15 TU	<b>NATALIE MERCHANT</b> MainStage
7/4 FR	<b>VSO SUMMER TOUR</b> Shelburne Farms	7/17 TH	<b>"CARRIE, THE MUSICAL"</b> FlynnSpace (7/17-20)
7/5 SA	<b>VSO SUMMER TOUR</b> Three Station Inn, Randolph	7/20 SU	<b>VERMONT CHEESEMAKERS FESTIVAL</b> Shelburne Farms
7/6 SU	<b>VSO SUMMER TOUR</b> Inigo Family Lodge, Stowe	7/23 WE	<b>VT SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL</b> An English Spring St. Paul's Cathedral
7/8 TU	2014-15 Flynn <b>SNEAK PREVIEW</b> Flynn MainStage Lincoln Center Theater <b>"DRIVING MISS DAISY"</b> Palace 9 Cinema	7/24 TH	<b>QUINN SULLIVAN</b> Thru Family Lodge, Stowe
7/12 SA	<b>GORDON LIGHTFOOT</b> MainStage	7/25 FR	<b>SKIO ROW</b> Venue Nightclub
7/13 SU	18th Annual Flynn <b>GARDEN TOUR</b> Williston Gardens <b>VT SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL</b> A Baber Brunch Bass Harbor Club <b>VT SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL</b> Andreas in the Afternoon McCarthy Arts Center	7/26 SA	<b>ARTURO O'FARRILL &amp; JAZZISMO</b> FlynnSpace
		7/30 WE	Broadway Near You <b>"THE NANCE"</b> Palace 9 Cinema
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## STATEofTHEarts

### Daycare With a View: A Muralist Goes to the Dogs

BY NATALIE WILLIAMS



ANIMALS

A daycare center for dogs might not seem like an obvious location for artwork, but the Crute Escape, Too in South Burlington is spending expectations. Soos "Champion Valley Renaissance," by local muralist YARA GOROU, will greet canines and their humans along a 100-foot wall in the facility's playroom. It will open for public viewing this Saturday, June 28.

"It's right at wall, and there is so much room to paint in there," says Gorou. "I was surprised because at first I thought the main advice would be dogs, who are possibly colorblind. But after being there for a while, I found that [the mural] might just brighten the space."

The decision to add the artwork came about during a series of updates and renovations at the Crute Escape, Too. "I knew that there could be a lot of growth in this business — especially if you add ... beautification projects to a dog facility," explains facilities manager COLIN DUNN. "You know, dogs don't want to look at cement. Dogs want to look at what we want to look at."

The mural actually spans five walls in the main playroom at the daycare and depicts four seasons of Vermont — somewhat like the mural Gorou painted earlier this year at the entrance of Burlington's City Market. In this one, of course, plenty of dogs join the scene.

Gorou says this is the largest mural she's ever created. It's painted on a series of 4-by-10-foot wooden boards so that, if the company ever changes locations, the owners can take the mural with them.

"Instead of just putting in drywall, [Dunn] installed panels that can be

**YOU KNOW, DOGS DON'T WANT TO LOOK AT CEMENT.**

**DOGS WANT TO LOOK AT WHAT WE WANT TO LOOK AT.**

COLIN DUNN

easily removed, just in case," she says. "It is a bit of an investment." Gorou was paid \$2,000 for her work.

Although the two had only planned for the four-season mural, Gorou had some extra time and added a Burlington moment. "I think my favorite part in the corner scene and Burlington skyline," she says. "I usually don't do houses, and I was just kind of having fun."

Gorou normally says house paint, but to make the work dog friendly, she added "basically a floor varnish, just to protect it," she says.

Dunn, who is all too familiar with rescue dogs can make, is pleased. "You can spray it with whatever you want, it's super durable," he notes.

Aesthetically Dunn says he just thought that during some art on the walls would be a good idea — "first of all for the dogs, second of all for everyone that works here, and third, just to get everyone interested in the Crute Escape," he says. "It's a great way to show that we are involved in where we live." ☺

## INFO

The-Gorou mural will be revealed at an open house on Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Crute Escape, Too, 153 Main St. in South Burlington.

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# HAIR POWER by Rebecca Rohrer



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**REBECCA ROHRER**

is an artist, illustrator and art educator born and raised in Toronto, Canada. She earned her BA in Visual Arts at York University in Toronto, and lived in Rome, Italy for many years teaching art and creating various kinds of work. She is currently working at the Center for Cartoon Studies. You may find her work at [rebeccarohrer.com](http://rebeccarohrer.com)



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**Dear Cecil,**

In the midst of a below-zero cold spell, my significant other and I were discussing the sources of humidity in our home that resulted in frost on the windows. He said breath, I said farts were also a factor. He said I was crazy. I'm not saying the two contribute equally, but come on, Cecil, how much moisture is in each of these forms of bodily exhalation?

Barbara Becker

**O**K, so maybe I should have held this question until January rather than answering it in June. But some things just can't wait. The summer proved more challenging than you might think.

Human farts are made up primarily of carbon dioxide, oxygen, nitrogen, methane and hydrogen, with small but often pungent quantities of hydrogen sulfide and other organic compounds in addition. The volume of farts varies widely based on diet, how much air you swallow and how efficiently your gut bacteria digest what you eat and produce gas.

However, while we found many studies detailing the chemical composition of farts, none gave a value for water vapor. Sometimes that was due to how the farts were collected: Filling the gas into a flask of displacement solution inevitably means sharing its moisture content. My mother — we have other relatives I called in my mother, U.S., a professional engineer.

I asked U.S. to calculate the maximum quantity of water vapor contained in a fart: She gave me the look she always gives me. I said what I always say: "It's for science!" How she does that thing with her eyebrows, only she and Jack Black know. Nonetheless, she bent to her spreadsheet and prepared the following analysis:

1. The amount of farts produced daily can be more than four liters, but typically it's around 0.4 liters per day.
2. We'll assume that, given how moist we are inside (more on that below), any expelled gases contain water vapor at close to 100 percent relative humidity. Calculating the water fraction, and multiplying the result times two people, we arrive at a total moisture output of about 0.4 milliliters per day.
3. That's not much. Assuming an average-size dwelling, well sealed off from the winter air and heated to 70 degrees Fahrenheit with a starting relative humidity of 35 percent, a day's total farts from two people will theoretically raise the humidity to 35.041 percent.
4. But humidity accounts for only part of the balance contribution to indoor

water vapor. Our bodies are made up of 58 to 70 percent water, of which 5 to 10 percent is cycled through us every day. A significant amount of water is lost through breathing and "insensible sweating" — that is, the constant low-level perspiration you don't notice. A typical sedentary adult loses about 300 milliliters of water per day through breath and 1,175 milliliters per day via insensible sweating, or close to a liter and a half all told.

5. Exhaling only through your nose reduces moisture loss by more than 60 percent, but let's assume our two test subjects are mouth-breathing adults who spend the entire day in their house. The total daily water contribution from their breath and sweat will be about three liters per day — about 75,000 times that produced by farts alone. Assuming the house is completely sealed, this will increase the relative humidity from 35 percent to about 70 percent. It's not fair to say that, while humidity makes no appreciable difference, breath plus sweat contributes significantly to the frost on your windows (I'm sure you thought about getting double-glazed windows! Your house sounds like an energy woe.)

6. Pets also contribute to indoor humidity. Cats and dogs don't sweat as much as we do, most of their water loss other than through excretion comes from breathing and (in dogs) panting. A typical indoor cat might lose 48 milliliters of water per day through respiration and minor sweating, whereas a Labrador retriever might lose 360 milliliters through breathing, panting and other sweating.

7. Therefore, a cat will raise the average home's humidity to 35.4 percent — one cat going about its business is a far bigger factor than two people farting. A large dog at that same situation will increase the

relative humidity of the house to more than 38 percent.

8. If we assume a household consisting of two people, a dog, and a cat in a sealed house, then the inhabitants' total contribution to indoor humidity is about 8.4 liters (close to a gallon, for you ruralists). This would increase the relative humidity of the house from the baseline 35 percent to more than 75 percent. The contribution of farts is negligible. I don't know that that means you're erasing, but with respect to farts being a factor in winter frost accumulation, you're indisputably wrong.

Keep in mind that, in reality, houses leak a fair amount of moisture, and every time you open the door results in an exchange of air, so the practical impact of all that exhaled water is much reduced. Remember also that I don't know your partner: If he's a member of the four-liner club, farts-wise, all bets are off.



**INFO**

In these columns, you need to get straight? Cecil Adams will tell you the Straight Scope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Reader, 715 North Chicago St., Room 401, or cecil@straight.com.





## Twentysomethings

**T**he call came in late Friday night, my generic ringtone ringing with the song on the radio and echoing over the voices of the students in the backseat. I automatically muted the radio and grabbed for my cellphone, which I keep perched on the dashboard. I don't know what I'm going to do when the "hands-free only" rule comes into effect next fall. Get a Bluetooth? Is that still a thing? I'm always stuck about three things before the latest technology that, alas, seems to be my next spot.

The caller said, "Jeramig — I'm so glad you're still working. This is Tapher. Could you pick up Max and Jessica at 30 Mills? I guess the tennis courts would be the best spot."

I replied, "Yeah, I'll be clearing in 10 minutes and I can get put in about 15. Just be ready to wait, OK? Cause it's a busy night."

Tapher and Jessica recently moved into their own place after living in a post-college rental in Winooski for several years. They had shared a sprawling, single-family house with six roommates of heterogeneity, the whole bunch of whom seemed to be tight friends. Despite having driven these kids back and forth on their regular downtown trips for a couple of years, I could never pin down the precise number of tenants. All I know is the house's sparse lawn and polished driveway looked like a domesticated meadow, lit judging by the cars, 'til gave a population of an 11 at minimum.

When I first hooked up with these young folks, the appropriateness of their living arrangement was immediately evident. It struck me as a way to ease the transition from college life to (semi-) independent, adult living, for both financial

and social reasons. Their Spring Street pad was in many ways a continuation of dorm life, though they now all had jobs instead of classes.

I quickly developed a genuine affection for the lot of them. When it comes to circles of friends, it's about that like at truck like, and this group was fun, warm and caring. (Plus, they always tipped well, which goes a long way with me.)

When I reached the college and pulled up to the tennis courts, I could see that all was not well with Tapher. Even before he took the shotgun seat, I could sense he was fuming. He was a jovial guy — bubbly and big-hearted — so it was a bit of a shock to witness him visibly angry.

Jessica, along with another couple I knew — Max and Elise — climbed into the backseat. Max said, "Hey, Jeramig, good to see you. This weekend was our first official college reunion. It's five years now for a bunch of us. God, we're getting old!"

"Yeah, you're ancient!" I kidded. "Could you drive Tapher and Jess home first?" Max continued. "And then me and Elise to our place? You remember where we live? On Sherry Road off Dorset?"

"Sure." I agreed and, turning to Tapher, I asked, "and where's your new apartment again? It's up North Street in Winooski, correct?"

Tapher turned to face me, but could barely speak. Jess filled the gap, saying softly, "Yeah, that's right."

The short ride down the hill into Winooski was tense. When we pulled up to their apartment, Jessica got out immediately and walked into the house. As he paid the fare, Tapher said, "Sorry for my lack of conversation. I had to help get my father into a rehab earlier tonight. If that

## HE WAS A JOVIAL GUY — BUBBLY AND BIG-HEARTED — SO IT WAS A BIT OF A SHOCK TO WITNESS HIM VISIBLY ANGRY.

wasn't bad enough, Jess and I got into a really bad fight while we were checking him in."

"Don't worry about it, mate," I said. "Sorry you had to go through that."

I took Grove Street to Patchen Road into South Burlington. As we crossed the highway overpass, I said to Max, "Hey Tapher was having a rough night. I don't think I've ever seen him so upset."

"Yeah," Max said, "it's something Tapher and I have in common. Both our dads struggle with alcohol and drug abuse."

"That's got to suck," I said. "I mean, your father is supposed to be taking care of you, not the other way around."

"Well, my dad is doing much better now, thank goodness. He had a couple years of a white back, and that kind of opened his eyes. His goal, 'fixing his own mortality' is how he put it."

"That's great. I mean for you and your dad, finally. I hope things got better like-wise for Tapher and his pops. He seems like a really good person. 'Honorable' is the word that comes to mind."

"Yeah, he is a great person. You know what he does for work?"

"He might have told me, but I forgot."

"He works for the state going around talking to high school students, helping them figure out if college is in their future. Some of these kids come from, like, rough family situations, and he really helps them out. I've known Tapher many years, and I've got to say that he's a real example to me. The dude has integrity."

"I know just what you mean. You're lucky to have friends like that. I have a couple of old friends that I feel the same way about. Even though we're peers, the same age more or less, they're like role models to me in many ways. Watching them through the years, I've learned something about how to live with some — well, nobility, if that's not too old-fashioned a concept."

Elise was asleep on Max's shoulder when we pulled up to their house. "Wake up, honey — wake up," he whispered into her ear, chuckling. "It's been a long day, and a lot of partying," he told me as he paid the fare.

"Hey, you're old now. You got to pace yourself!" I instructed. "And let me tell you — I know from whence I speak." The following weekend, I again got a call from Tapher and Jessica. They were all smiles — at me and at each other — as they stepped into the cab.

"Last weekend was a nightmare," Tapher acknowledged, struggling with his girlfriend in the backseat. "But we worked things out."

"Well, that's just what I want to hear," I said. "You easy kids." ☺

All these stories are true, though names and locations may be altered to protect privacy.

### INFO

Hackie is a weekly in-depth column that can also be read on [vermontreporter.com](http://vermontreporter.com). To reach Jeramig, email [hackie@vermontreporter.com](mailto:hackie@vermontreporter.com).

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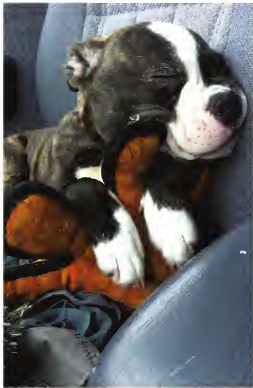
# Best of the Beasts 2014

Readers pick the aww-somest pet photos

Everybody thinks their dog/cat/bird/hamster etc. is the cutest. And of course they're all absolutely right. But when *Seven Days* readers judge their photos, someone just has to emerge at the head of the pack. In this year's pet photo contest, we received hundreds of entries, and voters weighed in via Facebook and online balloting platforms Second Street.

It's true, all of our fuzzy, furry or feathered buddies are awesome — as best friends always are. But the following photographs took the cake — *kibbles* — this year. Along with the glory of appearing in *Seven Days*, each winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to Play Dog Play of Burlington. Crillets, we see more boys and treats in your future.

PAMELA POLSTON

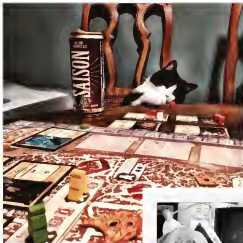


## DOGGONE ADORABLE

**WINNER: BIG FREDDIE**

**Owner: Felix Wei, Burlington**

Big Freddie, named after the rapper from New Orleans, is just 10 months old. She's a rescue, says Felix, "So they knew she'd get lost [meant] and because that, her dad's a French bulldog." The co-owner of Amoli at in Burlington, Felix says Big Freddie is the "cutest mascot, and I wanted her to win something for her efforts of being cute. And to start her career as a winner Burlington side by side. Plus, I love the little pug!"



## PURR-FECT POSER

**WINNER: FIGGS**

**Owner:** Enka Boyce, South Burlington

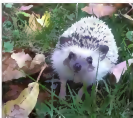
Figgs is a 6-year-old brown cat who "doesn't like to be left out of anything where [owner Jeng has] food and I am playing board games." Judd Green ("She'll often sit in the side and watch but this time she was like 'No way. It's my turn to play!'")

## SILLY SIBLINGS

**WINNER: CHARLIE AND JAKE STEVENSON**

**Owner(s):** Mother, Kari Stevenson, Essex Junction

Shawn "found" Stevenson looking into Charlie when he barked 1 in August, allegedly helped Jake. "I tried more by bringing up to him so he was missing out loud" says Kari. "We also thought it was such a good picture of Charlie — he is very comically normally!"



## WILD CARD

**WINNER: MR. PRICKLES**

**Owner:** Aimee Viero, Burlington

The really named Mr. Prickles is a 1-year-old African pygmy hedgehog. Aimee explained this that because she won. "This was the first time he smiled and his first time playing outside." "It was enough for our voters!"





## BEST DRESSED

**Winner: Mason**

**Owner: Susan Bendaryk, Essex Junction**

In this photo from 2013, 3-year-old Nelson found Mason is a beagle. He's a beagle. But he didn't always look so fancy. When Susan, in fact, the summer dog Mason's owner, he was hurt and hospitalized — but in the winter woods for an unknown amount of time," she says, adding that the dog might have been owned by her father — "a popular cat for winter hounds in that area."

After working for three years as a member Susan Bendaryk just decided to make Mason part of their family and take him to live in the house in the Essex Mountain State "house" Susan says. "Mason brings a quiet, strong, and little in Vermont, occasionally taking a quiet and stays in touch with a long belly rub."

## LADY & THE TRAMP

**Winner: Zoro and Olive**

**Owner: Ryan McLaren, Burlington**

Zoro, a Lab mix and Olive, a pit bull mix grew up together as "campaign dogs." "Olive was 1 when I adopted the 10-week-old Zoro, and from the start on the spot 10 plus hours a week together in our campaign headquarters with Zoro's mom (Jan Wengert) and me," writes Ryan, who won Best Dog for the Vermont Democratic Party in 2012.

"Olive taught Zoro how to play with 6 dogs, when to leave in some cases and even how to escape from the office. They were BFFs, as you can see in this picture of them taking a break from posing the same old back and forth to each other."

Ryan also shares that, during one birthday (Halloween), "Olive found Zoro hiding under our bed and told me he was all over." Sadly Olive left this world in May. "We were all devastated," Ryan says. "But I like to remember her as she is in this pic: happy, so playful and Zoro's best friend."



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# Shell Game

Uncovering Vermont's elusive wood turtles with Mark Powell

BY KEN PICARD

**M**ark Powell can talk wood turtles for as long as you let him. What they eat, where they breed, where they nest, the social tendencies of males versus females, their preferred habitat based on the season and time of day. Powell has an especially keen eye for spotting the elusive *Emydoidea blandingii*, aka North American wood turtle, in the undergrowth. When the vegetation gets too dense for him to find the turtles, as it typically does this time of year, Powell relies on his trappy turtle-tracking dog, Gracey, to sniff out the reptiles, whose shell length is roughly an to eight inches.

Powell, 53, is a computer network administrator by day and a self-described "turtle wrangler" in his free time. "Wrangling" may seem like too active a verb to describe the pursuit of a shelled creature that can barely outpace the snails, slugs and earthworms it eats. Still, the work of tracking turtles can be strenuous, exhausting and insect ridden, as I learn on a recent outing with Powell and Gracey, his 2-year-old chocolate Lab/poodle mix. Powell adopted Gracey in December 2012 and has been training her ever since to find and retrieve this rare and hard-to-find creature.

Powell and I meet at his Washington County home, then drive a few miles to a stream that borders 68 acres of privately owned woods and riparian areas.

Because the state lists the wood turtle as a "species of special status," it's illegal to remove the semi-sensational creatures from the wild, a restriction in force throughout New England. For the season, Powell, who has a permit from the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department to track and track wood turtles in Washington, Orange and Caledonia counties, is particularly eager about publicly revealing where he finds them in Vermont. In fact, he's so protective of wood turtles that he asks we not even discuss the body of water where these particular snails spend half their lives.

Powell's caution makes sense: Wood turtles can sell online for as much as \$400 apiece for a mature female, making them a lucrative target for poachers. Why is the species so desired? It's not for making turtle soup.

"They're thought to be the rarest turtle in the world," Powell explains,

as we sit in his car at one of his regular turtle-spotting locations. Studies have shown that wood turtles can navigate and remember a maze as well as a rat—an intelligence for which exotic animal collectors prize them. Powell theorizes that wood turtles may have developed this ability because they split their time between water and land, and hence require a more sophisticated internal "map" of their habitat than other turtles.

As Powell and I walk through the woods, he takes Gracey off her leash and commands, "Find the turtle!" Athletic and lean, the 44-pound canine immediately bolts into the dense, matted brush, her nose aggressively working at ground level, with only a small bell on her collar to tell us her location. As we

wade through waist-deep grasses and ferns with only a light breeze to cool us, it's readily apparent why experts credit a canine's nose to find wood turtles in the summer. In these conditions, I couldn't find a turtle unless I stumbled over one.

For his part, Powell gets real satisfaction from spotting a turtle that 99 percent of people would never notice. He's someone who prides himself on finding four-leaf clovers—a skill he also mastered as a kid. As he explains, the wood turtle's propensity for staying still, well camouflaged in the woods, is called "cryptic" behavior and protects it from predators. Even Gracey, whose nose is several hundred times stronger than a human nose, generally can't sniff out a wood turtle unless she's within 10 feet of one.

How does one train a dog to hunt turtles? After all, a canine's hunting instincts are triggered in part by its prey's rapid, darting movements—the very antithesis of turtle behavior. Powell initially tried to train his pet to go to track turtles, he says, but she was more interested in higher criteria such as rabbits, squirrels and birds.

Powell trains Gracey using turtle feces, source of the animal's strongest scent. In early spring, he says, when the wood turtle emerges from its hibernation in the river, it excretes virtually no scent, as its digestive system has been dormant for months. By June, however, the turtle has consumed enough snails, insects, berries, worms and even baby mice for Gracey to pick up the trail.

Within 30 minutes, Powell has discovered turtle tracks along the shore. To my untrained eye, they look like nothing more than faint lines in the sand. But Powell points out where a wood turtle recently came ashore: a single firm line tracing the movement of its tail. Five minutes later, a clearly excited and much-better Gracey alerts us that she's found one in the bushes 10 yards away.

**P**owell is not a formally trained wildlife biologist. His fascination with wood turtles began in 2002, after he and his wife bought six acres in Washington County and discovered a turtle population living along their ponds. Powell, who grew up in north-central Pennsylvania mining but now resides in Vermont, says he was "born with a love for nature." He admits that when he was a child, he was "a little bit of a nerd." But he was also a "nerd" who was "a little bit of a nerd."

Initially, Powell approached Fish & Wildlife about establishing a turtle sanctuary and breeding facility on his land. State wildlife biologists "weren't too keen on that idea," he admits. But they were amenable to letting Powell track, mark and document the turtles and, later, use a dog and radio tags to follow their progress over time. From early spring to late fall, he goes out two or three times a week searching for them.

Powell isn't paid for his efforts, but he serves as a resource for researchers and other turtle enthusiasts. He also gets occasional alerts from neighbors who discover a nest buried in a sandy driveway.



Mark Powell



In these cases, Powell is attributed to move the eggs to a safer location.

Wood turtles, once common throughout the Northeast, now face more threats than Vermont's other turtle species — not only from poachers but from agricultural machinery, lawn mowers, habitat fragmentation and development in general, given that many Vermont roads run along rivers.

"Development means roads," Powell notes, "and roads mean roadkill." Accordingly, Powell often gets calls from people telling him they discovered a wood turtle crossing the road. His advice: Just carry it across, then let it be.

Once Gracey finds the turtle, she pokes at it excitedly and flips it upside down with her nose, so she can grip it in her teeth and carry it back to her handler. Though that may seem like a less than ideal way of protecting the species, Powell says concern about the turtle's welfare is unwarranted. Gracey has a soft mouth — she's a retriever, after all — and the turtle's hard shell and plastron or rigid underbelly have evolved to withstand the teeth of predators.

"It seems funny a little, but this is what turtles have been doing for 50 million years — hiding in their shell and protecting themselves," Powell says, holding up the turtle, which has fully retracted its head and limbs. "From the turtle's perspective, 'Well, I've been through this before. I know what to do.'"

As Powell displays this turtle, we see the reason for its scientific name, *Glyptemys insculpta*. *Insculpta* means "engraved" and the shell looks like it's been etched with a down stopped pyramid. The turtle's head and limbs are a distinctive orange, which Powell says gets even more vivid in fall when the species is breeding.

The flat underbelly indicates that this is a female. She weighs 880 grams and measures 325 inches long, which Powell jots in a notebook. He then counts the lines on her plastron, like rings on a tree, to determine her age. This turtle may be 12 or 13, hence not

even of breeding age, he says, though we have found her in a location where Powell has often seen turtles make their nests. He says he occasionally finds immature females in the vicinity of nesting areas, perhaps following a housing contract to their hatching site. (Wood turtles can live 50 years in the wild, longer in captivity.)

This turtle also has two notches along the edges of her shell that didn't occur naturally. Powell put them there himself. He estimates that he originally marked this turtle back in 2007 or 2008. The markings serve a dual purpose: If lost, enforcement over recovers this specimen from a poacher, Powell can go into court and easily identify it as having been taken from the wild.

Finally, Powell photographs the turtle and puts it back where we found it — much to the chagrin of Gracey, who says to keep playing with it like a turtle ball. Powell directs the dog upward, and soon she's eagerly following another snout.

For the next hour or so, we follow Gracey through the high grasses and ferns. She flashes a woodcock, but no more turtles. By 4:48 p.m., the breeze has died and the humidity has risen, along with the deer

bins. When it's clear that Gracey has lost her focus and gotten, as Powell puts it, "squirrel crazy," we call it a day.

As we walk out of the woods, Powell muses on the wood turtle's future. It's been a disappointing year for tracking them, he says, speculating that many were washed downstream by early spring floods and are still making their way back upstream. Some researchers have predicted that the wood turtle, once so abundant in Vermont that people could find 100 in a day, would be extinct in the wild by century's end.

"I'm a little more optimistic than that," Powell says. As of now, he reaches down, picks a flat-foot cleaver and hands it to me. With Powell on their side, perhaps the wood turtles will get lucky after all. ☺

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# A Bug's Life

Checking in with Vermont's teeming millions — of insects

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE

**W**e depend on 1,000 peered cows for milk and meat, and struggle to with our 40-peered dogs and eight-peered cats. But an intensely proportional relationship governs the ways in which our lives are shaped by the creatures around us. The smallest animals can have the greatest impact. Just ask your friendly neighborhood pathologist. The bacteria and viruses that truly rule the world exist outside the animal kingdom — and hence outside the purview of this issue. But, way bigger than bacteria, unbelievably numerous and generally more reviled than celebrated, insects of all kinds affect us in complex and fascinating ways.

Vermont has a rich entomological culture, even if most of it exists on a scale that we don't often consider. The state's insects are beautiful (the Canadian tiger swallowtail butterfly, *Papilio canadensis*), irritating (ants on your kitchen counter), potential disease vectors (the *Anopheles* mosquito), and essential to our economy and very survival (pollinating bees).

In Bug World, something interesting is always going on. Here are some of our recent dispatches from the state officials and researchers who keep their eyes trained on Vermont's insects — and one undeniable little monster.

## Mosquitoes

According to a 2004 survey prepared by state entomologist Alan Graham, Vermont is home to at least 45 species of mosquitoes. If that sounds like a lot, consider that more than 1,000 mosquito species exist worldwide. Vermont's mosquito problem could be much worse.

Still, the insect's population here doesn't represent more than just summertime harassment. Some of them are carriers of the Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus, which causes a rare but potentially fatal disease not only in horses but in humans. Two Vermonters died from it a couple of years ago, perhaps after having contracted the virus from mosquitoes.

Graham, in a phone conversation with Seven Days, says the state has been monitoring the mosquito population for disease since 2001. At that time, the primary area of research was West Nile



virus, now, with the threat posed by "triple E," the Agency of Agriculture is stepping up its efforts.

"We are concerned," says Graham, citing reports of EEE cases in New Hampshire, Quebec and Clinton County, NY, just across Lake Champlain. "We have tried to intensify our trapping to look specifically for this virus, in addition to West Nile virus," he says.

In 2003, several cases in Addison County died from EEE. Native to Australia, those giant birds had no resistance to the virus, Graham likens them to the proverbial canaries in a coal mine. The ag agency decided to ramp up its mosquito study partly in response to those extra deaths.

Another recent study, conducted in collaboration with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station,

revealed that many mosquitoes pick up the EEE virus from feeding on passerine birds, a large group that includes many songbirds. But about 6 percent of those mosquito diets came from mammals, meaning there's a risk of the bugs passing EEE along to human hosts.

At present, Graham acknowledges that we can't do much beyond applying insect repellent. The risk of contracting EEE is low, but not zero.

## Ticks

Though it's not exactly breaking news, the latest on ticks is hardly more uplifting. Put simply, Graham says, "There's been a large increase in Lyme disease and a large increase in deer ticks in pretty much all regions of Vermont."

What makes this incidence so remarkable is that the deer tick, the primary vector for Lyme, could not be found in Vermont as recently as 40 years ago. The insect's northward march has been incredible. According to Graham, the quarter-inch long deer tick is traveling about 50 miles, or roughly 12.6 million times its body length, every year. In human terms, that's the approximate equivalent of marching from Paris to Vladivostok annually.

Many people consider ticks (which are not insects but arachnids, related to spiders) to be icky, blood-sucking things, but that's not the worst of it. The northward tick of the deer tick has put Vermonters at a greater risk for Lyme disease. The first step in mitigating Lyme is to understand all we can about its primary vector, says



Graham. But that's not so easy in a state with a small tax base, where such government-funded projects are less likely to attract funding.

Graham says he has three reasons to study those of other states: the Vermont Conservatory, Maine, New Hampshire and New York, as well as with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Lyndon State College associate professor of biology Alan Giese has led a "quantitative statewide" study of local bee populations, Graham adds. But he admits that a great deal more research must be completed before he can address the damage wrought by this diligent insect.



their hayfields before the overwintered grasses have a chance to bloom or replacing hayfields with such crops as corn and soybeans, which, Purse notes, "promise little in the way of winter resources for bees."

Wend, an organic pollinator.com, soybeans produce little nectar. But these crops are valuable to farmers, either as food for their livestock or on the open market. According to an online commodity calculator developed by the University of Illinois, the average price of a bushel of corn rose from \$1.86 in 2000 to \$6.15 in 2013. It's the very definition of a cash crop, yet its cultivation creates collateral insect damage.

Without hayfield crops such as clover, which holds its bloom for a long time and is a major source of nectar, bees don't get the nutrients they need to sustain their colonies or produce honey. When colonies are thus stressed, says

Purse, they become more susceptible to "other factors that, by themselves, might not have been an issue," such as disease and infestation by the now-solitary varroa mite.

Such problems necessarily reduce the state's honey yield, then again, Purse says, they have also contributed to honey's current record-high prices. Recent weather has been favorable for honey making, but Purse isn't making any predictions. Speaking by phone to *Seven Days* in mid-June, he says, "The next eight weeks will tell the story for [this year's] honey production."

Another terror that transhumans has noted is bees is the class of pesticides known as neonicotinoids (chemically related to nicotine). Often listed as one of the potential causes of CCD, neonicotinoids have the advantage of low toxicity for mammals. For insects, however, it's another story, as these chemicals attack their nervous systems and affect, among other things, their ability to navigate.

Kent McFarland is a conservation biologist with the Vermont Center for Ecosystems and Watershed. He's led a multi-year project that yielded an alarming result: Nearly a quarter of Vermont's native bumblebee species has disappeared in the last 20 years. Though he doesn't have the data to prove it yet,

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That doesn't mean Vermont has not seen any CCD cases, which seem to stem from a complex system of interlocking problems including mite infestations, weather variations and viruses. Purse, who spends a lot of time inspecting beehives all over the state, has seen many in poor shape, but none that exhibited what he calls the "classic" symptoms of CCD. A healthy hive suddenly and mysteriously losing the majority of its adult population.

Purse singles out recent changes in local agricultural practices as a scenario that adversely — although indirectly — affect insects. More and more Vermont farmers, he says, are depending less on a major source of nectar in one of two ways. They're either clearing

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# Growing Pains

With integrated pest management, Vermont florists and farmers act naturally

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE

**T**he first thing to know about thrips is that the word is never capitalized. "Thrips" can refer to a single insect or to many of them. This has a certain logic: You'll never see just one of these bugs. The little guys are absolutely everywhere.

The second thing about thrips is that, though they're teeny-ting — just a couple of millimeters long — their enormous numbers guarantee that their appetite for plants can spell devastation for growers. Cultivators of ornamental flowers are at particular risk, as thrips not only prefer to feed on such plants but are a vector for the transmission of viruses.

Thrips are, in short, a tiny, winged menace. Though they are *icky* for some other bugs, they're as dumb as any of them, and they reproduce so quickly, that predators barely achieve a dent in their destructive capabilities.

The damage wrought by thrips is largely aesthetic; they rarely kill their host plants. A thrips-infested plant can develop discoloration, withered leaves and mottled "scarring" all of which can render a crop of ornamental flowers completely worthless.

With pesticides not generally of use against thrips — not to mention potentially hazardous to humans — what's a grower to do? The Romology Research Lab at the University of Vermont has one answer: a diversified program called integrated pest management, or IPM.

IPM is an environmentally friendly, multi-pronged approach to pest control. Its four key tenets are maintenance of sanitary growing areas, early monitoring for pest detection, biological controls and, as a last resort for severely compromised crops, manual pesticide application.

"The use of biological controls is the most potentially groundbreaking element; it involves using plants or 'good bugs' to control 'bad bugs'." In the greenhouse, all six crops were ruined in this manner; but pesticide-based pest control is now so entrenched that a

radical change of mindset is required to leave it behind.

A greenhouse that uses IPM may cultivate beneficial fungus *oomatodes* (small roundworms) to control pests; soil-bored eggs, "bunker" plants to draw pests away from valuable crops; and insects that prey on pests without

thrips magnet, luring them away from more valuable plants. It is essentially a *sacrificial plant*.

Possibly the marigold's color attracts thrips, or its aroma, or one's really sure, Skinner says. The flower's ruffles might even appeal to thrips because the insects can, like cicadas, eat,

**THE HUMBLE MARIGOLD  
IS A VERITABLE THIRPS MAGNET,  
LURING THEM AWAY FROM MORE VALUABLE PLANTS.**



harming plants greenhouse operators stand to benefit most from employing IPM, as closed ecosystems, they're not open to nature's own system of biological checks and balances.

UVM entomologist Margaret Skinner, who has worked for 17 years in the IPM field, cautions about one of the best defenses against thrips. The humble marigold, she says, is a veritable

diagnosaurus: "They prefer to hulk in places where they are closely physically surrounded. Whenever the reason, 'A lot of growers are now using them with great effect,' says Skinner. "It's been a little bit amazing to me how effective these marigolds have been."

Skinner's research has found that luring thrips with certain bugs is as effective way to destroy thrips' eggs and larvae that fall from the plant. "The thrips drop down to the soil, become infected and won't come out

again," she says. Skinner is also researching the use of "sacrifice" filled with allies that are benign toward crops but repulsive for thrips.

IPM is not a new idea, nor was it invented in Vermont. (It was developed in California in the 1950s, and was a plank of federal agricultural policy in the 1970s.) But the UVM Entomology Research Lab has dedicated itself to promoting the method within the state, and its efforts are paying off.

Leri King is the head grower at Classroom's Florist & Greenhouse in Colchester, where the owners in operation that includes about 40 greenhouses that comprise nearly half an acre, from square feet of growing space. She has attended UVM's IPM workshops for each of the last three years, and estimates that Classroom's has reduced pesticide use by 90 percent in recent years.

King uses multiple biological controls to keep pests at bay. She dunks plants plugs in a solution that contains nematodes as well as two fungal agents, RootShield and RootGuard. Depending on the plant, she'll also make it accessible to insects in the Greenhouse, which prey on thrips.

The benefits of an IPM approach are several, says King. Herbaceous pesticides means employees don't have to suit up or wear up the shop to apply hazardous chemicals, and there's no chemical residue on plants.

An unexpected benefit is that employees' Workshops can add at a reasonable hour. Chemicals must be applied at the end of a business day to settle overnight, requiring employees to stay at work until seven o'clock or later in the longer days of summer.

King says that IPM is not only cheaper than pesticides but more effective, having helped her "uncover" not just thrips but the (potential) spider mite. "I have a few aphids still to go, but they're minor," she says.

As farmers everywhere have found, pests will eventually evolve resistance to chemical pesticides, which then have to be tweaked and made more potent. But no bug has evolved 100

percent resistance to being eaten by another bug, Glasse's was the Green Works/Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association Environmental Awareness award in 2012 for its efforts in reducing pesticide use.

For any IPM option to work, Skinner says, it must be both simple and affordable. "It has got to be something that a grower is going to want to adopt," she says. "When we first started working with growers, many of them didn't even want to admit they had a pest problem. But over the years, they've become much more

forthcoming [and] much more inclined to share information."

The biggest challenge for IPM strategists, Skinner says, is educating the general public about the benefits of this paradigm-shifting method. For decades, consumers have insisted on pest-free products, which brought about a heavy use of pesticides. Now, to saving the pondskin the other way, Skinner says, consumers must recognize that picture-perfect produce comes at a cost. Even in eco-minded Vermont, she says, that's not going to be easy. ☐

## A Bug's Life

McFarland suspects *monarch* trends might be a root cause.

The biologists who conducted the study took a "bumblebee census" across the entire state of Vermont, collecting more than 10,000 specimens. Then they compared their data with those from the state's historical records back to 1900. Their conclusion, McFarland says, was "pretty alarming. Almost half of [Vermont's] bumblebee species are declining or appear to have declined. And three or four species have completely disappeared."

Historical records show only 17 total bumblebee species have ever resided in Vermont. With several previously common species, such as the rusty patched bumblebee, on the wane, the numbers do not look good for these important pollinators.

Any *monarch* grower will tell you that a decline in the bumblebee population is a serious matter. Those insects vibrate their wings at about 400 Hz, which happens to be the frequency of which tomato plants' pollen is most easily dislodged from their anthers. "Bumblebee pollination" is so effective that producers of greenhouse tomatoes commonly set up bumblebees hives inside their facilities.

McFarland says he suspects that it's not just monocultures that have been "whacking" these bees, but also the increased presence of GM World (that is, European) notes and gut parasites that accompanied New World bumblebees

species 30 years ago or more, before regulations were enacted to limit such contact. "Start adding these issues together and it spells big trouble for some of these bees," McFarland says.

## Butterflies

Not all of McFarland's news is bad. He's recently been surveying the local population of the giant swallowtail butterfly, and his data suggest that this gargantuan, beautiful, harmless insect is

on the rise in Vermont.

With a wingspan of up to six inches, the giant swallowtail is the single largest butterfly in North America. And, so far as McFarland can tell, it never appeared in Vermont until 2010. A number of sightings by "citizen scientists" (as McFarland calls amateur entomologists) was sufficient reason to commence a tracking program in the fallow region. "Bee!" he says. "It's breeding here all over the place."

In such southern states as Florida, the caterpillars of the plant swallowtail can damage citrus crops. There's no such worry in Vermont, where it feeds primarily on a weedy, native plant called golden ash, which has little commercial value.

What's driving the *Papilio* catastrophe north? It may be a gradual warming of the local climate — so maybe it's true that most insect news is bad news. Insects — by virtue of their size, high reproduction rates and environmental sensitivity — tend to be biological bell-weather. All the more reason to heed what they're telling us. ☐

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# Litter Quitter

A feline toilet-training tutorial

BY COURTNEY COPP

**O**ccasionally, a dinner guest at my apartment will stop and sniff, then, full poised in the air, wearing a baffled expression. The reason? A table — made by one of my two cats, Jonathan and Masha — coming from the bathroom. The pause in conversation is usually followed by a remark such as, "What? Cats can do that?" The answer is yes. From the time they are kittens, cats can learn to do all their business on the toilet. Here's how.



**STEP 1** Be prepared to spend several weeks on this process, allowing your cat to take two to three weeks for each step before moving forward. First, move the litter box into the bathroom to familiarize kitty with the space.

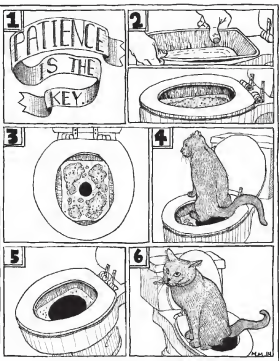
**STEP 2** Mold a full baking pan securely under the toilet seat, making sure the seat doesn't wobble, then fill the pan with fashionable litter. Always keep the toilet lid up and running the seat after each cat use.

**STEP 3** Using a new pan, cut a 1.5-inch hole in the center. This helps cats learn to aim and develop proper posture. Sprinkle 25 percent less litter in the pan, replacing as needed.

**STEP 4** Cut a 3-inch hole in a new pan and further reduce the amount of litter. At this point, your cat should be aiming for the hole and successfully urinating into the toilet. It will likely have its front paws on the toilet seat and rear paws in the pan.

**STEP 5** Cut a 6-inch hole in a new pan, adding just a touch of litter, with the goal of eliminating litter by the end of this stage. Kitty should have all four paws on the toilet seat before you remove the pan completely.

**STEP 6** Cat successfully uses the toilet. 



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# Bye Bye Birdies

In St. Albans, an unlikely avian shelter takes flight

BY MARK DAVIS

**T**ony and Mytty Olson never intended to open an exotic-bird shelter. They had no business plan, no last-eight talks about turning their passion into a job, and they didn't research applicable regulations. They simply received a steady flow of inquiries once word got around that the Olsons had some pet birds.

"Could you take one more?" people would ask. "How about another?"

The Olsons never feared a way to say no.

Last August, the couple decided that, like it or not, they were in the bird-rear business. So they officially turned their modest St. Albans home into Feathered Hearts Avian Rescue. They believe it's the only shelter exclusively for exotic birds in northern New England.

"We were considering it and then got pulled into it quickly," Mytty says. "We wanted to make sure all our [pet] birds got the love and attention they needed."

The Olsons determined that their home had room for more. And the birds flew in. Within weeks, they were providing foster care for 16 birds, including parrots, cockatiels and parakeets. Feathered Hearts has housed nearly 500 caged birds at one time, though last week that number was down to just seven—six of their own and one foster pet.

Both Olsons work full time and have two children, ages 9 and 14, at home. But trading on their foster flock, and driving across New England to pick up birds that their owners are ready to abandon, has become a second full-time job.

"We don't go on vacation," Mytty says. "We don't have free time. We don't know what that is."

Though they have subsequently developed a website and Facebook page and taken out a few local advertisements, for months the Olsons received birds simply through word of mouth in their relatively small network of veterinarians, pet-shop owners, animal-control officers and bird owners.

They received an unexpected influx when the only avian shelter in New Hampshire closed last year, Mytty says. Mine has no similar shelter, either, she believes.

"Word travels fast," she observes.

They grew up with birds in his home, and only recently persuaded his wife that it was time for their family to have some of their own. Their oldest bird, Lilla, is 2 years old.



ONCE YOU HAVE IT, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE BIRD LOVE.

MYTTY OLSON

What is it about birds that captivates the couple to devote so much time and energy to their feathered friends?

"You have to earn their love and respect. And once you have it, there's nothing like bird love," Mytty explains. "They are very companion oriented. They want to be with their person. They are lovable and caring. They are like toddlers."

Since August, the Olsons say they have "in-homed" more than 100 birds. At their peak, they had 47 birds at once, after a Vermont woman dropped off 30 finches. They found homes for every one, even

with the stipulation that potential owners take at least two, so each bird would have a companion.

Shelburne veterinarian Liam Brown says the Olsons are providing a desperately needed service. People generally know what to expect with a cat or dog. Birds are often a different story, like vet visits, and ill-paired couples often give up. "They don't know what they're getting out," Brown says. "They want a bird from the movies, sitting on their shoulder, talking to them. They don't all do that. It takes training and work."

Another surprise to some owners is that domesticated birds live longer than most pets—and even some humans. Many survive more than 30 years, some parrots make it to 80 or 90. The Olsons have received pets from overwhelmed family members of bird owners who had passed away and made no provision for their birds.

Surviving mistreatment often "don't want the bird or don't know how to take care of it," Brown notes.

(The Olsons have made provisions in their will that two of their pets with the longest expected life spans—an African Grey and an Amazon parrot—will go to their children.)

It's true that caring for birds is trickier than many prospective owners anticipate. Their dietary needs are complex, for starters. While many owners feed their birds only seeds, healthier diets include a greater mix of fruits, vegetables and vitamins.

Birds can also be particular about their surroundings. Some don't like being around other birds, or children. Cats could be a problem. Owners also have to be adequately bonded. Some birds do well in cages, but others should be free to roam. And—though it should be obvious—birds can be quite noisy. One woman who donated a parrot to the Olsons worked at home and found that her "obnoxiously loud" bird interfered with her work.

Hyde Park resident Andrea Varnham gave up her two cockatiels Peep and Squash, in the fall after one of them showed signs of emotional issues—he paced his bathroom nonstop and shrieked constantly—until Varnham struggled to attain proper care.

"It broke my heart to surrender them," she says. "I have never surrendered any animal in all my life, and I'm like a failure. Mytyl—talked us through my tears. She was reassuring and shared stories with us that were similar to my situation."

The Olsons took in the pets, and have since found Peep and Squash a new home.

Tony and Mytty Olson declined to divulge how much they have spent on their rescue efforts, but they concede they've spent several thousand dollars that they don't ever expect to recoup. They don't require name-adler fees, unlike many rescue societies, though the couple sometimes receives donated food and cages from pet stores, vets and fellow animal lovers from Vermont and New Hampshire.

But Feathered Hearts will have to find revenue streams in order to stay viable. To





Tim Daly and Charles Scharoun as Ken

**R**ed as a meditation on looking and looking. In John Logan's play, the painter Mark Rothko has a lot to say about looking, and he has someone to listen in the form of his studio assistant, Ken.

The Dorset Theatre Festival production begins with the art of looking and, for Tim Daly's *Rothko*, it's no passive gazing but a nearly corrosive attention to the surface and meaning of a painting in progress. Motionless, head tipped to the side, Daly opens the play gazing with hungry intensity at the fourth wall. *Ar* to.

But he's looking at the painting he's working on. And in that powerful, consuming stare, Daly makes clear his character's need to make art of the highest seriousness. Logan anchors his story in the drive to make art, and he gives Rothko a certain degree of proto-romanticism and ego. Without vanity, he couldn't weather critics and sustain himself through the wrenching process of completing a painting.

## Seeing Red

Theater review: *Red*, Dorset Theatre Festival

BY ALEX BROWN

When Ken enters the studio, Rothko asks him, "What do you see?" And so begins an eerily Socratic dialog between the monomaniacal artist and an assistant who progresses from naïve to knowing over the course of the play. As Ken grows in confidence, *Red* itself matures. If Rothko spits out pronouncements in the early scenes, toward the end he begins to interrogate his beliefs as Ken challenges them.

Set in his flowerly studio, the play covers two years of Rothko's life, in the late 1950s. It's agnostic about most events and borrows lines directly from Rothko's writings and interviews, but it's

the work of a playwright's imagination. Rothko has received a large commission for a series of paintings to hang in the River Seasons restaurant in Manhattan's newest expression of modernism, the Seagram Building. The money is important to him, but so is showing his work in a space that groundbreaking architects Philip Johnson and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe designed. Logan explores how commercial reward can compromise art, though the story encompasses other themes as well.

*Red* portrays a master and apprentice, with overtones of a father and a son, while telling the story of an artist's

career from upstart overthrowing a prior artistic movement to protestantism to watching new artists usurp his place. In this sense, it's a story of growth and mortality. But Rothko's preoccupations extend to the balance between emotions and intellect, and much of the dialog between Ken and Rothko investigates this idea, using Nietzsche's *Birth of Tragedy* as fuel. Logan always grounds the intellectual observations in the powerful appetites of the two characters. They're seeking meaning, not with detached, academic musing but with a promise to understand the world. Logan captures the triumph of abstract expressionism itself by demonstrating that the abstract can be invested with emotion, and the play is a visceral, exhilarating experience.

Nathaniel, *Red* begins well, arguably, too much delt wordplay in the service of brilliant musings about the art world, the nature of creation and how the artist must honor influences from art to music to philosophy. Daly handles



the physical energy wonderfully, but these early neo-monologues come off as words he is speaking, not ideas he's having. He rushes, electing the intelligence it takes to have the ideas in the service of getting them said, and depriving us of the chance to reflect on them.

When the play's structure shifts to more interactions between the characters, Daly is able to shine as a character sweating with his work. "I am here to snap your heart, you understand that?" Rothko tells Ken. "I am not here to make pretty pictures!" Daly lets all that wears on Rothko show up as weight on his body from a droop as he sits to a voice heavy with care and purged of his normal bright and eager tones. Daly, an Emmy winner known for his roles on "Wings," "The Sopranos" and "Private Practice," doesn't resemble Rothko physically, but he reveals the essence of the character. Daly slumps and slouches, barges Rothko's words across power.

As Ken, Charles Secorides has a frank curiosity onstage that draws the viewer in as his ally. His mid-30s body is cuffed with energy as he goes about his work making stretchers, running errands and cleaning brushes, but about all admiring and developing the verbal bludge that Rothko rains down from time to time. As artist and assistant settle into efficient conversations, Secorides quietly shows his character growing stronger and stranger. Ken opens one scene as a phone conversation, fretting about his latest opinion, and another with the smug confidence to work on his own, building a stretcher after putting Glee Baker on the sterno to replace Rothko's beloved blazer. Throughout, Secorides is as able to tell for Daly.

Scene designer John McDermott conveys the play's tension between left intentions and gritty practicalities with a set packed with the clutter of a painter's privacy tools in a cathedral-like studio. Three massive paintings hang on the walls, but they are disturbingly unlike the actual Seaguns originals, which can now be seen at the Tate Modern in London. The shapes are reproduced accurately enough, but the color is coarse, without Rothko's capriciousness not overlapping it, and the brushwork lacks the nuance of his edges.

Still, the facilities ought to have more effect on us than they do. They prove a point Rothko makes in the play: "To paint a small picture is to place yourself outside your experience. You paint the larger picture, you are in it!" Because the facsimiles hang high on the wall, they are small and distant to the theater audience. We can't immerse ourselves, and the paintings lack the emotional

and intellectual power of the originals. Rothko's work is about proportion and the viewer's human scale beside it.

Theater is all about futility. The trick isn't recreating something; it's creating something strong enough to produce the reactions that reality can. Though the paintings on stage lack the presence and power of Rothko's art, the play has all the emotional strength necessary to show us, through one man's life, central problems we all confront in life, the brightest truth of theater, not life. But it reaches us, perhaps transforms us, because art operates, as these characters say, on both intellect and emotion.

Dorsey's production is exceptional, with nuanced lighting by Michael Gershwitz and note-perfect costumes by Charles Schomman. Director Adrienne Cornehl-Hick smoothly runs and releases tension in her blocking choices and establishes the foundation for a tight, two-person performance.

## DALY DOESN'T RESEMBLE ROTHKO PHYSICALLY, BUT HE REVEALS THE ESSENCE OF THE CHARACTER.

The play tells a true-life story about the Seaguns' construction with some apocryphal details. Sticklers for accuracy might claim that a true story means more because there's proof it can happen, while fiction doesn't have to follow the rules. But when fiction works, it does follow rules—the deepest rules of human experience. In a world that was just stone by irony, it takes courage for Logan to give his character pronouncements about art and life. But the emotional current in *Red* justifies them with eloquence that transcends words. **B**

### INFO

*Red* by John Launer, directed by Adrienne Cornehl-Hick, performing Dorsey Theater/Hubert Through-July 6. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m., Wednesdays and Sundays, 3 p.m. 502-261-1015, 502-262-2023, [dorseytheater.org](http://dorseytheater.org)



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**NAME:** Scout  
**OWNER:** Kaitlin Montgomery  
**AGE:** 12 years  
**WEIGHT:** 65 pounds  
**BREED:** Husky  
**ADDITION:** to explore the world  
**IDEAL TREAT:** It's a tie between hot cream and pills.

**NAME:** Todd Legend  
**OWNER:** Dan Eggett (producer/publisher), marine director, and partner (Shawn Legend)  
**AGE:** 4 years  
**WEIGHT:** small  
**BREED:** Staffordshire  
**ADDITION:** to down out the roar of the F-35s with her own super-sonic barking  
**IDEAL TREAT:** Pupa Pearls (just because it's cool)

**NAME:** Gabe Eggett  
**OWNER:** Dan Eggett and Sherrin (pilot)  
**AGE:** 7 years  
**WEIGHT:** small  
**BREED:** Dachshund  
**ADDITION:** to stretch her deodorant in a towel-bulb shower machine and finally to poop  
**IDEAL TREAT:** Bully Cones—sweet, crunchy goodness

**NAME:** JJ  
**OWNER:** Heather Brown (journalist, musician)  
**AGE:** 8 years  
**WEIGHT:** medium  
**BREED:** Yellow Lab  
**ADDITION:** out as much as possible every day, run in the woods, sleep on the couch  
**IDEAL TREAT:** Cherry midsize or dried sweet potatoes—the bigger the better



## ANDY'S DANDYS

Midland

**SAMPLE:** Cornmeal Peanut and Honey Oat Biscuits

**INGREDIENTS:** (varied by flavor, but all contain) rye flour, oat flour, rolled oats, rice flour, fresh eggs, baking powder

**TASTING NOTES:** YUM! More Peanut Crunch!—Cassia  
Frosting! Looks and smells like gingerbread—Lilly  
I'm only eating this because other dogs are here—Gus

Scout took it into the ether room to enjoy it without threat from her sister [and then came back for more]—Kaitlin  
Heaven, Heaven, Heaven—Scout

## BINGO & BLANKET'S BAKEHOUSE

Midland

**SAMPLE:** Natural Whole Soy Cheese Biscuit

**INGREDIENTS:** rolled oats, flaxseed meal, organic brown rice flour, chicken, chicken, olive oil, peanut milk, egg

**LABEL NOTES:** "These biscuits are the perfect guilt-free treat for spending—no meat, no preservatives—your kid's (best) furry friend!"

**TASTING NOTES:** Rufus loved this. He walked right down—John  
Looks healthy—Michelle  
Happier shit poop! (That's a two-step to feed me this. I'm thirsty)—Gus  
This biscuit was delicious. Another biscuit, please!—Gasha

Hi hum—Oss  
crunchy, crunchy, yummy—Oss

## GOOD DOG COOKIES

Midland

**SAMPLE:** Chicken Beer Cookies

**INGREDIENTS:** soy/Veg. Soya, rolled oats, cooked chicken liver, dry milk, garlic, water

**LABEL NOTES:** Really good treats for really good dogs! Cute drawing of marmoset and doggie!

**TASTING NOTES:** Smells a little gross. She'll love it.—Robin  
Looks like a weed cookie.—Kristin

Looks pretty. Do wanted more.—Michelle  
I like the crunchy! Waiting for more.—Scout  
Like a gourmet hippie frosting treat.—Gus and Sherrin  
Happy—Thale

## GOOD DOG COOKIES

Midland

**SAMPLE:** 80/20 Baking chocolate

**INGREDIENTS:** chocolate, chocolate, brown

**LABEL NOTES:** "Refrigerate after opening." 140 ounces bag = 1 pound chicken!

**TASTING NOTES:** Looks good. Like bacon. Seems natural.—Kristin  
Puffs will eat this right up. He's killed two chickens.—John  
I love most! Crunchy. Leathery delicious.—Gasha

That's it? Please, can I have another?—Cassia  
I caught this and it all in one bite. Wow! Stop me from trying.—Gus  
Dutch started at the pit for being so much on the eating zone.—Oss and Sherrin  
Did lick the floor for crumbs.—Michelle

## WAGATHA'S ORGANIC LITTLE BITES

Manchester, Canada

**SAMPLE:** Tuscan pesto

**INGREDIENTS:** whole oat, flour, whole barley flour, cornmeal, white chicken, chicken, organic olive oil, cracked fennel seed, dried tomatoes, tomato powder, organic garlic, thyme, basil, rosemary oil

**LABEL NOTES:** "Vagatha co. founder Norman Lovitt began baking dog biscuits for the folks in the late '70s (while he worked for disco land)."

**TASTING NOTES:** These are small and perfect for Rufus size.—John  
Underwhelmed.—Cassia  
Why was the lot mealy up with Sushu?—Gus  
Have that's organic.—Julie  
Tastes like Pupa Caribou. It could eat a whole bag.—Lilly  
At it.—Robin

## KELLY'S K9 COOKIES

Calgary, CA

**SAMPLE:** Pumpkin Seed, Pumpkin

**INGREDIENTS:** whole wheat, flour, corn meal, whole grain, water, peanut butter, honey, eggs, canola oil, meat, brewer's yeast, vitamin E

**LABEL NOTES:** "Breed busters." Natural dog treat. Clean teeth!

**TASTING NOTES:** Gushy like it immediately.—Ethan  
Gosh loved it, pawing at me for another—Kaitlin  
Yummy or I love it I want more!—Scout  
Oh, I liked it, I liked it, I liked it—Michelle  
Gosh wanted to like it, but it was a bit—Den and Sherrin  
It's too hard. Yuck!—Ethan

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## SIDE dishes

BY HANNAH PALMER SMITH &amp; ALICE LEVITT

## A Fork in the Road

IN A FOOD TRUCK, IT'S THE POSSIBILITIES THAT INSPIRE. This Saturday, don't bother packing a picnic if you're headed to BALLSLEIGH PARK. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Burlington High School's brand-new park, the food truck will be parked by the bocce court selling slow-fast food that'll leave your hand swishin' out of the water. "We're calling it slow-fast food because with a Vermont twist," says

DANIEL HUBERT, TURK 2 SCHOOL

ALICE SMITH and HANNAH PALMER SMITH are happy to go to events with a twist. In this case, it's a twist on the classic food truck. They'll also be passing out Color Grids & Cheeses, noting with a little chide that between slices of sausage, cheese and bread baked just for the project. "It's kind of a quasi-slow-fast food menu," Hubert says. "We wanted it to be the quintessential street-vendor food."

BUT? teamed up with Burlington Technical Center (BTC) to make the project, made possible by a matching grant from Decker Corp. and BTC culinary instructor



Burlington Garden Food Project

coordinate at the restaurant so we can raise money (35FF)

Food for the truck comes straight from area farms and from Burlington's market-to-table school gardens. The menu is a vegetable asparagus that bridges the gap between gourmet and accessible.

So think funnel-cakes. At the onset of a late-blooming strawberry season, BHS student chefs will be tapping frozen strawberry shortcake with some frozen blueberry and cider (from Champlain College) with fresh berries from nearby farms and ice cream from Burlington's Champlain Creamery for an extra twist, extra cool, park-perfect take on the classic strawberry shortcake.

For a salty fix, love yourself a hot dog—the truck will offer bratwurst from

JASON CARROLL has been training 30 BHS students to transform a simple truck and trailer into their mobile café.

After this weekend, the truck will return to Oakledge next Saturday, with stops along the way at VERMONT STATE COLLEGE (Thursday starting July 2), the Community Safety Center, BHS, the Vermont State College (Friday) and the Vermont State College (Saturday). For a full schedule, find the Fork in the Road food truck on Facebook.

—H. P. E.

## Fill 'Er Up!

GRAND OPENING TO OPEN IN AUGUST IN SCOTTSDALE, NEW JERSEY. Right now, BRIAN STONE and LAM O'NEILL are busy building a new craft beer hub for the state's Vermonters. "We're looking to be the premier place to go for craft beers."

## Free Festival

EAT BY NORTH EAST DEBUTS IN SEPTEMBER

With a growing number of new food festivals on the horizon, why should you choose Eat By North East (EATBY)? It's a big, great fundraiser and it's totally free," says co-organizer and Shrewsbury resident, Bruce Adler. Despite there being no entry fee, he hopes that, with donations, the event will raise more than \$20,000. These dollars will benefit five charities: Slow Food Vermont, the Intervale Center, Vermont FRESH, the Vermont Community Garden Network and local food programs at the TCNH Lake Aquarium & Science Center.

EAT X NE  
Local VERMONT FOOD FESTIVAL

Since there is no fee at the door, Adler hopes to go beyond preaching to the farmers' choir. "We're trying to expand the group of people who participate in the local food movement," he explains. "We have to be going to do that? Through fun and education. The whole thing is designed to be very popular."

EATBY will be at Oakledge Park in Burlington Friday, September 14, through Sunday, September 16. The event is divided into five categories: Eat, Drink, Listen and Learn. Since has other food fest, BARNYARD LOCAL, is the weekend before, Adler is working to recruit different vendors to sell all local food and drink on Friday and Saturday at EATBY's first concert. Kids willing to cough up a little cash can opt into a study. "How much beer and cider eating, while there's nothing to your beer and chocolate can carry up to a beer and chocolate tasting hosted by local sponsor, LAKE CHAMPLAIN DISTILLERS."

On Sunday, the fest features a featured Great Harvest Supper featuring dishes from one of the world's most loved and respected, as well as a featured local butler. From pork, each will cook a whole animal, including a steer, a pig, a calf and a goat or lamb. VERMONT STATE COLLEGE will provide music, and the chefs at EATBY will provide a menu of local food, including a study. "It's a collaboration with some of the state's best chefs," Adler says.

Next, the women behind the upcoming Bolton Valley and Stone's and Foster's restaurants, will coordinate the beer. For each, Adler says to expect "the smallest, closest and nearest, then, on top of that, the gods of beer." These gods will include some of the state's best craft beer makers.

As for learning, festival director BIANCA MURPHY is scheduling more than 30 free educational sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Topics include on-site gardening and how to feed local food to your family for less than \$75 per week.

—A. L.

Stone says. "It's really that straightforward." The project is called the O'NEILL GARDEN and it's located near the E. 89 interchange on Dorset Street in South Burlington. It's slated to open in mid-August.

Stone says he and O'Neil will be running 30

drift fees for grower fills, but they'll also be selling thousands of new bottles and cans from the Green Mountain and beyond, along with wines, meads, ciders and other locally fermented.

Stone was a nightgrip about who he's working



with, but says he's pulling together an exciting beer-festival studded with brews that will be exclusively available at Growler Garage. "We're still in the process of negotiating, but we'll have beers that aren't available anywhere else," he says.

Stone says the concept grew out of personal relationships — he owns a beer and wine greenhouse east in Williston, and O'Connell's HVAC company Mountain Air Systems runs the ventilation and plumbing for many of Vermont's best breweries. Both have close friends in the beer industry.

The two also wanted to bring top craft brewers to a wider audience.

"With a lot of these beers, the only way to get them is as a restaurant," Brown says. "You go and they pour you a six-ounce glass for \$6, and you're paying a dollar an ounce," he says. Growler Garage will offer these same beers in 64-ounce portions for a fraction of the price.

"There are all these amazing micro-breweries popping up around here," Stone notes. "We want to be there for them, to spread the good word and bring them on. We're there to convert their product."

—H.P.R.

## CONNECT

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## Fido Feast



### KELLY'S K9 COOKIES

Cakester

**SAMPLE:** Escapes (Peanut Butter Kitties and Bones, Roast Pig and Cheesy Hydrants)

**WHOLESALES:** (ordered by flavor, but all contain) whole-wheat flour, commercial instant yeast, eggs, canola oil

**TASTING NOTES:** Peanut butter? I eat this. —Paul

**Reflex:** Is an aphrodisiac? I wanna play with Spike. —Geri

**It was a little hard to chew and large. Needed to break it up. —Lilly**

**Tasty crunchy. Flavorful. —Sara**

**I'm worried about Scouts eat tooth. —Kathryn**

**Dry. Chalky, stinking like kibble. —Michelle**

**These biscuits were a train wreck. —Geri and Shawn**



### PRONATURE HOLISTIC

Boucherville, Quebec

**SAMPLE:** Green Free Chicken "Duck & Dungeness"

**INGREDIENTS:** duck, chicken meal, dried eggshells, chicken meal, dried eggshells, chicken fat, naturally preserved with mixed tocopherols, dried orange pulp, freeze-dried peas, dried egg product, natural chicken flavor, lecithin, and many more.

**LABEL NOTES:** "Simpler, natural."

**TASTING NOTES:** Taste me, man. —Katie

**This is the best food I've ever had. —Cheryl**

**My farts are going to destroy you tonight. —Geri**

**Always looking for green free kibble. Pretty stinky. —Aimee**

**terrible mass produced and doggy. Don't like it. —Betsy**

**I want more bones. —Ben**



### VERMONT RAW PET FOOD

Hartford

**SAMPLE:** Chicken recipe

**INGREDIENTS:** ground chicken bones, chicken meat, poultry heart, poultry liver

**LABEL NOTES:** "We use local Vermont poultry, which is not fed antibiotics or growth hormones."

**TASTING NOTES:**

**It looks raw. I'm a bit nervous. —John**

**Love the aroma. —Mia**

**Absolutely not. No idea. —Celia**

**Looks like something no Gino would feed his dog. —Pete**

**I should like this. Tasty person. Not having it. —Geri**

**I feel healthy and strong like a wolf. —Dutch**

**One fed it. Then chewed it. —Michelle**

**Please. More. Now! —Geri**



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## food

better and more subtle. I made a couple nights ago from oranges and Meyer lemons.

**What foods are always in your pantry?**  
Items of many types, because I love playing around with beans. I love my pressure cooker because it makes life easier for that kind of thing. I often have some kind of pork and a half-eaten watermelon in the fridge. In the summer, if I don't have a watermelon in the fridge, I don't feel like life is right. Our family is very fruit driven.

There are some City Market plants in there, too.

**If you could have any chef in the world prepare a meal for you, who would it be?**  
Doris Chang

**Years trying to impress somebody with your culinary prowess. What do you want?**

I might challenge them a little bit with some grilled baby octopus, which has become something I really love. I also think I'd be looking at proteins. The kind of known for my wood-grilled or wood-roasted meats. I don't go in to the super-technical dishes, and that's in part because I'm still learning, but also because I'm not drawn to them. By and large, I'm just really drawn to high-quality ingredients and not messing them up. I think that might be a product of my age. I didn't go to culinary school and work my way up through a restaurant. I don't have an inclination to really impress people. I just want to feed them.

**What's the dish you'll be remembered for?**  
A properly cooked steak.

**What's the worst dish you've ever cooked?**

I did a really not great version of ramen once. I was trying to teach myself how to make a proper dish and I just used so much seaweed and kombu. I got all the pork and vegetables and stuff, but I messed up the broth—it was way too salty and seaweed tastes bad. It revulsed the ramen and the pork that goes on top of it. So we sat down, and it was really created by all the work I'd done, and took a few bites, and it was, like, "Wow... that sucks."

**Describe your best meal ever.**

There's a restaurant in San Francisco called Napa, and one of the best meals I've ever eaten was sitting at the bar at Napa, ordering a continuous stream of stuff all their menu. They do things tapas style, which is my favorite way to eat. This is how I'd imagine a little candlelight bistro in Japan—and everything they served to

us was great. There were peas and mussels in butter sauce, and it was delicious, pork belly in sauce, and it was great. Plus the fact that they were sitting at the bar, having really nice cocktails and chatting with the bartender—it's just the way my wife and I like to eat out.

**And you worst.**

Anytime in Florida! My mother's going to kill me when she sees that. When we were down in Orlando getting the truck, I thought, "Where in the world can you find good food in Florida?" In Orlando, it all seemed toward tourists. But where my mom lives in Sarasota, there are some good restaurants, and Miami is one of my favorite places to eat.

**What's your favorite cookbook?**

I really like *At Home* by Thomas Keller, the French Laundry chef. *A Matter of Pigs* [and *Other Recipes*] by David Tunst and Alice Waters. And the *Tartine Bakery & Cafe* cookbook. Through most of the time when I look at cookbooks, I'm really just looking at the pictures. I might look at the description, but I mostly just look at the concept and run with it.

**If money were no object, what kind of restaurant would you open?**

Small, 40 seats or less, a relatively open kitchen to interact with the guests a little bit. Oh, and a wood-fired or open grill.

**What's your favorite beverage?**

The things I drink are water, coffee, beer, wine and cocktails. My favorite beverage is probably a really nice glass of wine, but a really good beer would be a close second, and a really good cup of coffee would be a close third.

**What kind of music do you like to listen to in the kitchen?**

A pretty eclectic mix. The predominant style would be kind of funky-punk alt-country—I do not like pop country at all—bands like San Veto. I have a long history with the Green Day band, so I play the *Dookie* CD. And a lot of old-time music like Neil Young and classic rock. You know. And if I'm alone, I listen to New Tech Nicks.

**If you weren't a chef, what would your job be?**

A traveling food writer.

**What's your most embarrassing favorite food?**

Soft, white bread. I surely have it in the house, but if someone gives me like, a bakery sandwich on Wonder Bread, I'm gonna love it. Or a close second would be a McDonald's Fruit & Omb. I only allow that once a year or something. ☺

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WITH THE LAYAR APP  
TO WATCH VIDEOS

SEE PAGE 71



JUN. 27-29  
FAIRS & FESTIVALS



PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

**R**olling Stone deems Neko Case "one of America's best and most ambitious songwriters." The songstress cut her musical teeth in the 1990s as a drummer in the Pacific Northwest punk scene. Eventually swapping her drumsticks for a guitar and loud vocals, Case joined indie-rock powerhouse the New Pornographers. Widely regarded for her fearless approach to Americana, the Vermont resident turned heads with her 2013 Grammy Award-nominated album, *The Worst Things Get the Hardest to Fight*, the More I Love You. She delights local listeners at a benefit concert for Catamount Arts and the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts.

#### NEKO CASE

Wednesday, July 2, 8 p.m., at Flynn  
Performances in Burlington. Gett's  
Info: 802-536-6100. [flynn.org](http://flynn.org)

## Stories Through Song

### Stunning Stitches

Crafters take a passion for patchwork to new heights at the Vermont Quilt Festival, New England's oldest and largest needle-and-thread extravaganza. Quilt top quilt makers from around the region whose imaginative handiwork reflects an unparalleled craftsmanship. Rich in color, design and attention to detail, these award-winning works of art attract thousands of viewers. Hand-picked by top industry curators, hundreds of antique and modern pieces span a wide range of styles — including fiber-art "abstractquips" by local quilter Pamela Decker. Gallery talks, appraisals and special exhibits complete this celebration of beauteous fibers.

#### VERMONT QUILT FESTIVAL

Friday, June 27 and Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, June 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
at Champlain Valley Expo Center, 1000  
Junction St. Info: 802-603-4479. [vqf.org](http://vqf.org)



**FEZ: LOCAL STORIES THAT MOVE US.** Local stories in a new format, celebrating our voices. Join me for Live Fez. Burlington 10:30 to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 848-7206

**LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY.** Children ages 18 and under share monthly meal courtesy of the Burlington Food Project. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Wed. 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**THE UNUSUAL SUMMER REAL PROGRAM.** Tue 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Newbury. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 234-2342

**MAO SCIENCE PROJECTS SERIES.** Critical think and projects through 5 episodes. The science behind Mao. Southbury Library, Southbury, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**MAGIC SCHOOLS, MAGI: MAGIC KIDZ.** The adventures of Magi. Fun and magical, enlighten, children ages 4 and up. Kidding! Natural Library, Mulford, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 223-2328

**MUSIC WITH MR. CHUBB.** Single day and weekly classes. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 234-2342

#### more to read

**MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL.** Legendary performers from Canada, France and the United States. Montreal, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

#### more to see

**FUNKY OVERCASTERS.** The first of the best of the best. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**INTERPLAY JAZZ ALL STARS.** Musicians of all ages explore the art of improvisation. In-person, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

#### more to do

**JEFFREY HARRIS: A FOUR DAY PRESENTATION.** The Jefferson Harris Band and his friends. Music, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**RICARDO LÓPEZ & MARINA LÓPEZ.** A new band. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**RENEE LÓPEZ & MARINA LÓPEZ.** A new band. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**RENEE LÓPEZ & MARINA LÓPEZ.** A new band. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

#### more to see

**ROCK AND ROLL: A NEW SERIES.** A new series. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**ROCK AND ROLL: A NEW SERIES.** A new series. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

**THE GOOD: THE BAD AND THE UGLY.** A new series. Southbury, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free. Info: 875-1278

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**LYNDEN FARMERS MARKET:** May 20th-30th (except a selection of fresh veggies, meats, cheeses and more). Sundays and Fries, 10am-2:30 p.m. Free info: 338-3226.

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**RIO-BONHO FARMERS MARKET:** An open air farmers' market to farmers' products. Road brownies, Volkswagen buses, bumper cars 9-4:30 p.m. Free info: 589-1594.

#### golfers

**BRIDGE CLUB:** See 982-29, 10 a.m.

#### Health & fitness

**ANYTHING'S FOR TESTING:** Grants take advantage of "test-taking" as part of a national event, dedicated to promoting the special 7th anniversary of the 1990, Burlington, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free info: 880-445-2423. [www.anything.org](http://www.anything.org).

**PROOFREADERS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY:** personal a water demonstration daily provided for women concerned about their health. River Center, 1000 Common by South Burlington, 10-11 a.m. \$5 a fee. 880-7677.

**RECOGNITION TO PACKAGE FOR COMPLETION:** Message: The United States National Government is partner based techniques for reducing material in senior community rooms. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**LAUGHTER YOGA:** Breathes, claps, chant and a little. It's a fun way to reduce stress with this joyful practice. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**YOGA CORREL:** Right looking to refresh your practice and help you. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 11:30 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

#### Holidays

**INDEPENDENT NOT DATE INDEPENDENCE DAY:** Families like the holiday with friends. Celebrate with a picnic and more. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

#### Kids

**ALBION CLUB STORY TIME:** 10-11 a.m. up to age 6. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**GROUP IN STORY TIME:** Picture books, finger plays and more. 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**THE LYNDEN FARMERS MARKET:** See 982-29, 10am-2:30 p.m. Free info: 338-3226.

**MUSIC WITH DANCE:** 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**SUMMER FARM-GARDEN ON THE:** 1000 Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

**SUNSHINE STORY TIME:** 10-11 a.m. Free. [www.mountainco-op.org](http://www.mountainco-op.org). 880-6060 ext. 202.

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Abstracted in:

**ALICE IN WONDERLAND** Youngsters get a quinceañera-inspired play while new parents anticipate mother's chair with maternity nurse and lactation consultant Alice Cooper. Suffolk Medical Wellness, 30 E. Main Ave., July 2018 \$10

**FLIZ BOOM: BEACH STORMS WITH MEDIAN**  
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**MAKE A KALEIDOSCOPE**—Nursing students ages 11 and up learn about color mixing in a crafting session. *Flamingo Community Library* 1361 3 p.m. Free. [www.fclib.org](http://www.fclib.org) Info: 445-7630

**REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS:** Southern Vermont Natural History Museum staff share their knowledge with nature lovers in grades 3 and up. A line-up of presentations suit the presentation. **Brainerd Library Hours:** Tuesday 2-5 p.m. Free info. 878-6856

**WIND POWER:** Vermont Energy Education Program representatives are conducting one-on-one tours up to 7 through 10 in a hands-on exploration of turbines and windmills. Kellogg Hutton Library, Montpelier, Vt. (Free, Info: 223-3344)

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## Contents

**COARAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS THROUGH ART** VALENTINE BOAD, ELIZABETH HARTWIG, Kingston LGBTQA Community Advocacy Group hosts a screening of *Maria Cunningham's 2013* documentary about the murder of Larry King on openly gay nightliner. A discussion follows. **Catamount Arts Center** 351 Jervisway 7 p.m. \$10.00. [www.gaybait.com](http://www.gaybait.com)

Source: *Forced*.

**MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL**  
See THU 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

100% (100%)

**PUBLIC JAM SESSION:** Musicians of all skill levels left each other's agents through the process of making music. The Wellwood Co-op Building, 3-5:30 p.m. Free info: 858-452-8778 ext. 300.

**BARBERSHOP/AFRO BARBERSHOP.** New Colors presented to you by the Barbershop community. Experience and instruments are not required. R Space Social Collective, Burlington. 6-8 p.m. Fri. July 2002. \$10.

[illegible]

DEAD HEAT-LINE ON 140 SERIES. See VIDEO 28. Line Placed Under Surface. 8 x 7. 3 p. en. \$2.15 incl. S/H. OCT 84/87.

more rapid

**ALEXANDER** The author of *Revolutionary Seeds*, his work is part of the Western College of Fine Arts/Viking Artisan Reading Series, College Hall Chapel, Northwest College of Fine Arts, Minneapolis 715 s.w. Ave. Info: 612-4500

## TUE.1

## communities

**NYEL WIRELESS SUMMIT-CELEBRATING CELEBRITY**  
Locals celebrate the official launch of the statewide high speed wireless network with Governor Peter Dinkins, Congressman Peter Welch and others, Albany Field, Hamden room 8 p.m. Free pre-register info 855-6663



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workshops (Sat. 9-5) at 545 New Hwy, Locust, Shiloh, Oak Island, Rt. 100, Locust, Seaboard.

**DECKHOUSE LITERATURE.** INSTRUCTOR: JENNIFER DENT. A deckhouse-based exploration and dissemination of English literature and the world around us. The class includes live and recorded live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

**HEUTE CRAFT WEEK AT OUR STONE HOUSE MUSEUM IN BURLINGTON.** Instructed by: David C. Smith, Burlington. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

**MUSIC.** Live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

**culinary**  
**FOODSERVICE IN THE KITCHEN.** Live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

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**dance**  
**DANCE STUDIO SALSA.** Live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

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**FLYNNARTS**  
**PERFORMANCE.** Live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse. The class includes students to write about the live on stage at the Seaboard Deckhouse.

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**JULY 3RD / FODGER BALLROOM  
7PM DOORS / 8PM OPENER / 9PM SHOW**

**General Admission: \$35 / VIP Admission: \$75**

VP includes: Includes meet and greet with JJ Grey, passed appetizers, two drink tickets, commemorative t-shirt and early show entry.

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# classes



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## HERDS OF PAIR

REPRODUCTIVE ASSISTANCE: Anne McGeary director, Vermont Herds of Pair, 1000 School Road, Burlington, 438-0102. www.herdsofpair.com. Herds of Pair is a non-profit organization that provides reproductive assistance to dairy farmers.

## language

**LEARN SPANISH & SPANISH WRITING**  
**ESPAÑOL** Classes at 210 New Street, 1000 School Road, Burlington, 438-0102. www.herdsofpair.com. Herds of Pair is a non-profit organization that provides reproductive assistance to dairy farmers. Herds of Pair is a non-profit organization that provides reproductive assistance to dairy farmers.

## martial arts

**VERMONT FREEDOM JUDO**  
JUDO classes for children and adults. Instructor: Julie Tye. 1000 School Road, Burlington, 438-0102. www.herdsofpair.com. Herds of Pair is a non-profit organization that provides reproductive assistance to dairy farmers. Herds of Pair is a non-profit organization that provides reproductive assistance to dairy farmers.

**SHAW DOJO JUDO**  
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## meditation

**INTRODUCTION TO JUD**  
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**LEADS TO MEDITATION**  
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## music

**TALENT, GROWTH & GROWTH**  
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## photography

**JOHN PAUL CAMPBELL:** John Paul Campbell, a professional photographer, will discuss his work in black and white, color, and digital. He will also discuss his work in black and white, color, and digital. He will also discuss his work in black and white, color, and digital. He will also discuss his work in black and white, color, and digital.

## tai chi

**UNION-KYU TAI CHI CHUAN:** The thing that sets Tai Chi apart from other martial arts is its focus on health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness.

**YIN-YANG TAI CHI:** The yin-yang tai chi is a form of tai chi that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness.

## yoga

**SHRIMPING-YOGA TATA:** Shrimping-Yoga is a form of yoga that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness.



**EVOLUTION YOGA:** Evolution Yoga is a form of yoga that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness.

**YOGA 101:** Yoga 101 is a form of yoga that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness. It is a martial art that is designed to improve your health and wellness.

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# She's Got Reissues

Lucinda Williams talks about songwriting and her new old album

BY SAM HOLLES

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WITH THE LAYAR APP  
TO WATCH VIDEOS  
OF THE ARTISTS

SEE PAGE 15



**2**011 marked the 25th anniversary of the release of Lucinda Williams' breakthrough eponymous album. For the decade prior to that 1986 record, her music had simply been ignored, aside from some occasional cabbies from mostly minor record labels. But Lucinda Williams, originally released on now-defunct London punk and indie label Rough Trade Records, put the Louisiana-born alt-country songwriter on the map. It was the first break in a career that would birth landmark albums such as 1990's *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*, garner multiple Grammy Awards and see her become one of the most admired songwriters of her generation.

In celebration of that anniversary, Lucinda Williams, which has been out of print for a decade, has received the deluxe reissue treatment by Nashville label Thirty Tigers. The release, announced in January of this year, includes the original record, remastered from the original analog tapes, as well as 20 live cuts. But Williams isn't simply reliving the past. In September, she'll release a double album of new material, which she describes as "country-soul." She'll follow that up about six months later with a record of what she says is "my kind of country music."

Seven Days recently spoke with Williams by phone, in advance of her show at the Flynn Music Stage this Saturday, June 25.

**SEVEN DAYS:** Aside from the obvious tie-in with the anniversary, was there any other reason for re-releasing the record now?

**LUCINDA WILLIAMS:** It was mainly the anniversary. It had been re-released in the 1990s by Koch Records, but then they went under, and it went out of print again. The main thing was trying to find the original analog tapes, which until now had been in storage somewhere. When Koch re-released it, they didn't even have the analog masters. They just made a digital copy, so we went there



# SOUNDbites

BY DAN BELLES



the friends

## Friends With Benefits

Remember last Wednesday when you were basking in the glow of a rare quiet week on the local music front, and recharging our batteries for the summer rocking to come? Yeah, that's over now. This weekend, festival season locks into high gear with the first major successory to do a string of outdoor fests and shows that will occupy our ears practically every weekend from now until mid-September. I hope you're reeled up.

This Friday, June 27, marks the start of the fifth annual Friendly Gathering, fest at Timber Ridge in Windham, Vt. The two-day do is the brainchild of two northwestern area writers and bandy boys — the latter two on the U.S. Soccerboard Team at the 2004 Winter Olympics. The duo originally conceived of the festival simply as a party for about 120 of their closest friends — they call it that way because “there’s no ‘I’ in friends.” But in the five years since, the festival has grown exponentially, thanks in part to the increasing infusion of legions of musical talent alongside local acts. Past fests have seen the likes of HEAVY ANTHEM, BRIGGS WILLIAMS, BR. 500 and the FALCONBROTHERS grace the festival stages.

The lineup for this year’s FG looks to be the best yet. Heavy music fans will likely recognize acts such as electro rockers tenné, indie folk darlings and sweet, indie rockers sssssss, old-time

blues-folk revivalist CHUCKY GRANGE and the ever-ascending LAMM STREET LIVE.

But the mark of a great festival is not merely the glitzy names at the top of the marquee. Often the acts on the undercard make for the most memorable flys moments. And in that regard, the Friendly Gathering scores especially high.

The backbone of the FG is the wealth of local and regional talent that has long been a fixture of the festival. This year, that includes New England-based new folk to rockers KAWAII, Brooklyn “core music” progheads sssssss and Long Island indie singer-songwriter JAVIER, among many others.

On the whimsy/leisure front, expect performances from rising pop phenoms TWINKLE, KAT WINKIE & THE INDIAN STRAWBERRY SHAW, indie/jazz trio JANDRA, whiskey-grass outfit GOLD TONES, grass-grass band FALCONBROTHERS, basement rock duo CRYSTAL and prodigal neo-soul songstress MONA FOWNE. And also on the FG program, because he’s everywhere — though not at his newly minted series Three Phantom Proms that Friday, June 27, at the Monkey House. This time around he’ll hand the reins off to his wife, electronic acts AMALIA GONZO, TYPHOON and PINKALOID, in addition to a few other acts.

For more on the 2004 Friendly

Gathering, including ticket and camping info — and the fests’ 10 Authors of Friendship’ manifesto — check out friendlygathering.com.

## Hangin’ Tough

A hearty welcome home to Maine-based Americans/power pop trio the Rough Ones. Newer readers might find that last sentence confusing since, as of this writing, Maine and Vermont are technically two different states. But those who’ve been following along a bit longer may recall that some years ago I considered honorary Vermont status as the group. I did so, one, because they’re really good. And two, because they experienced a decidedly baroque run of poepr that should be familiar to many local musicians. They got booted from playing on the Church Street Marketplace for daring to book without being vetted and promoted by Marketplace tastemakers.

Anyway, the Toughs are back in Vermont for a few shows this week, touring behind a new record, *Rough Ones*. The band’s latest is a slight departure from their earlier work, which tended towards a rosy sound along the lines of, say, the *wee* *brothers*. But *Rough Ones* finds the trio veering into a more strident pop-informed style. There’s still enough being to suit Americans here — largely in part the raw work of bongo player *COLM HURLEY*. But even the dulcet tones of his other bandmates are used more in service to the band’s refined, hook-heavy songwriting than for shades of Appalachia. Honestly, I hear more of a 1970s power-pop influence — think the *small* *ones* or *even* *the* *one* — than the alt-country and pseudo-punk of their earlier records.

Softer it is say I really dig the new tunes, and I think many of you will, too. Find out when the Toughs play again. Shows in Burlington this Thursday, June 26, with songwriter *PATRICIA GRANGE*, and Pozzivo P in Montpelier on Friday, June 27.

SOUNDBITES BY DVS

For up to the minute news about the local music scene, follow @dotmusic on Twitter or read the Live Culture blog [wendays.vt.com/theliveculture](http://wendays.vt.com/theliveculture).

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# RUSTY NAIL

Stones, VZ

## Upcoming Shows

Fri 6:27 Dave Keller Band  
Thurs 7:3 The Dusty 455  
Sat 7:5 Bow Thayer Band

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## music

### CLUB DATES

BY MICHAEL M. ALLEN



FRI 7:27 SAT 28 (7) RICK ROSS & VINCE & MIAMI LOCA (WORLD MUSIC)

**Tropical Punch** *eclectic* Lenny's latest record, *La Bomba 80's*, was recorded in four continents over a span of three years. *Wetday*, it comprises a worldly array of breezy, danceable sounds, from Cuban son and salsa to African soulans, all infused with the world-conquered Lenny's two Angolan roots. Lenny plays the Hipster Center for the Arts (Dartmouth College Green) on Thursday, June 26, at Amherst in Burlington on Friday, June 27, with his band *MARINA LOCA* and local acts *DU MEXICO-GRAND*. Lenny also appears at Townsquare in New Haven on Saturday, June 28.

## WED.25

### durham

**BRILLIANT GATE** (country/rock) 8 p.m. live

**HALLUCINATE SPARKS** Josh Decker & Friends (rock) 7 p.m. live  
Riot live Wednesday (JCM) 9:30 p.m. live

**J.P. & FIVE** Pub Jam with Dave 7 p.m. live. Karaoke with Ministry 10 p.m. live

**LEONARD REEFER & CAFE** Phil Nelson Trio (jazz) 7 p.m. live

**MANHATTAN PIZZAZZ PUB** Open Mic with Andy Lige 7:30 p.m. live

**MEXICAN VZ** Comedy Club Presents: What a Jaded Comedy Open Mic (comedy) 7 p.m. live

**ON THE REBELLEST** Open Mic (comedy) 7 p.m. live

**RAJAH BROS** Francisco Escobar Trio (jazz) 8 p.m. live

**RED SQUARE** Shave Barbershop (rock) 7 p.m. live

**THE DUSTY 455** (rock) 7 p.m. live

**THE EIGHTH PARADE** (BURLINGTON) Jack Pando & Acoustic Soulmates 8 p.m. 10:10 live

**ZEN LUNAR** DJ Kyle Prosser (dance) 10 p.m. live

### chittenden county

**BLACKTIE PUB** Talent Show 8:00 PM Rock/Pop, 9 p.m. live

**HOUSE OF MUSIC** (BURLINGTON) LUNGE, Mother Nature, live Family Open (jazz/rock) 8:30 p.m. 10:10 AM

**THE HOPKIN HOUSE** Street America (jazz/rock) 8:30 p.m. 10:10 AM

**ON THE REBELLEST** Open Mic (comedy) 7 p.m. live

**ON THE REBELLEST** Open Mic (comedy) 7 p.m. live

**RAJAH BROS** (BURLINGTON) Open Mic (jazz/rock) 8 p.m. live

**THE EIGHTH PARADE** (BURLINGTON) Open Mic (jazz/rock) 8 p.m. live

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PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

# SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33



## BiteTorrent

Spreading of homecooking, welcome back, **ANYTROMAN**, who for several years was a reporter, political columnist and news editor for this esteemed rag. But I mention that only because, in addition to his fine reportorial skills, Anytroman is quite the lingo player. He played with several local bluegrass bands during his Vermont stint, and even gave lessons to lighting wizard Jason "Ligger" Ligger's wife and former TD staffer Jessica Ligger, but Anytroman's local roots actually run a bit deeper.

Many years ago, Anytroman was a member of a local bluegrass band called **LAMBCHUCK CANYON**. Though short-lived, the group featured some players who should be recognizable to local grass fans, including guitarist **BEARHOUNDS**

(the **CLAYTON BROTHERS**), mandolinist **BEAR WOLFEN** (Clayton Bros., **BEARHOUNDS**, **BLUE MONKEY**) and bassist **BOB LAMPS**. In a recent email, Anytroman writes that the group will reunite for a show at the Whiskey Bar in Calais this Friday, June 27 — some 14 years after their last gig at Manhattan Pizza in Burlington.

However, the band will converge under a different name. Na, not to dele out the borders of Lambchuck lands who might descend upon sleepy Calais. But because, as Anytroman puts it, Lambchuck Canyon is "a terrible band name."

The new moniker? **WOLFMAN**, after the 1980s cartoon about five robot lions who converge to form one larger, more badass robot. Oddly appropriate, no? In tribute, here, local keyboardist **OWN MURKIN** (JANNAEL, **RYAN POWER**) is

spearheading an intriguing project called **ONE MORE NIGHT LEAVING TOWN**. It tackles a reimagining of the **RAMBLING LIPS'** landmark 2002 album *Shelton* (after the Pink Robots, at the Monkey House this Saturday, June 26). The band also includes **JUPPY HYDE** & **PICTUREHOUSE**, **PHASE PROJECTS'** **JOSH FRYE**, **INVISIBLE WOMEN'** **JEAN WITTEN** and the **FAMILYLINE** & **RANDY'S TEEN PRECZ**.

Maning writes that the group is attempting to "incubate all the elaborately weird sonic layers" of the record in a live setting — some thing he notes the Lips themselves often struggle to do. He adds that faithfully recreating the record would take a mini orchestra, but that they're getting "surprisingly close" with the five-piece ensemble. That's a challenging endeavor, to be sure. But Maning notes, "any Fleming Lapsian in town will find we're doing such a close job on justice."

Last but not least, the **five bells** at Higher Ground Presents, the off-site arm of the Higher Ground nightclub, announced this week that **WAVE MACHINE** will play the **Phon Maitenance** on Wednesday, July 23.

As it happens, there's a great Ryan Adams story from several years ago, back in Adams' hard-drinking days. An old bud of mine was playing the **Meritage Lodge** and he and the Cardinals were playing next door in the **Ballroom**. Remind me to sell you that one in a couple of weeks. ☺

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## MONTPELIER



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- 7-11 **JOY REEN MUSIC**
- 7-11 **ICE AND FRIENDS**
- 7-11 **MONROE**
- 7-11 **MINNESAPES**
- 8-11 **MYBLO**
- 8-11 **THE GRAY**
- 8-11 **JOSH POKOR & THE HOT CORNED**

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- 6-11 **HYPER TETON**

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**CONVERSATIONS WITH KAY**  
MONDAYS - 8:00 PM

**CHORDS**  
MONTPELIER, VT  
**AN AFTERNOON WITH JACOB**  
**CLAYTON BROTHERS**  
SUNDAY - 7:30 PM

**30**  
CHARTER, VT  
**VOLUNTEERS WANTED**  
FOR THE JULY 27  
SUNDAY SPECIAL  
RECEIVED JULY 28

GET MORE INFO: GO WATCH ONLINE AT  
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107.9 FM



Chris Green

## Listening In

A peek at what was on my iPod, Kindle, vinyl, and cassette player this week.

**ALPHEUS**, **WINDY** (45) (listening)  
**FRANK OCEAN**, **BLVD**, in **Capitol** (old)  
**WAVE MACHINE**, **THE MONKEY HOUSE** (in **my heart**)  
**WAVE MACHINE**, **THE MONKEY HOUSE** (in **my heart**)

WAVE MACHINE, **THE MONKEY HOUSE** (in **my heart**)

**VOTE!**

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 **LET US DARE**

# REVIEW *this*

## Anders Parker, *There's a Blue Bird in My Heart*

(RECORDS WORTH LISTENING TO: DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY)

There's a *Blue Bird in My Heart* in Anders Parker's first recording in four years with his Cloud Ridge companions. Given the title from a line in a Charles Dickens novel, the album opens with a fairly familiar guitar riff that might be somewhere between Led Zeppelin and the Beatles' White Album. It's a clever sound. And yet, despite his roots in timeless, guitar-centric rock and roll, Parker does not confuse himself in any specific musical criteria. That quickly becomes apparent.

Over eight-plus minutes, the record's opening track "The Road" shifts and changes a caution time. No refrain or structure holds the song in place; rather, it meanders forward naturally and seemingly of its own accord. And then, as all sounds cease, it ends.



With "Acoustic," Parker moves into more structured territory yet maintains the looseness established in the opener. The song is built around a heavy, blues-infused guitar riff that wouldn't sound out of place on an early White Hot String record. Never mind the traditional rigidity of blues, Parker's solo, executed with energy, is no lay breeze.

Parker's rock chops cannot be denied, but his gentle ballads really bring *Blue Bird* to life. On songs such as "Don't Let the Darkness In" and "Unspoken," he evokes a Middlebrow-era Bob Dyl while employing his signature time and key changes. Even when he slows things down, Parker never loses touch to sluggishness, and his softer side is heartbreakingly precise.

"Acoustic Things (Have All the Best Drugs)," another eight-plus-minute epic, takes the record onto a psychedelic realm, but the transition is seamless. Guitars are both heavy and meandering, the piano comes in high-pitched and the drumming is wild. Somehow, it still kinds makes sense. More than any other track, "Acoustic Things" is a testament to this band's ability to embody musical nuance without passing directly too single one. This song, and the majority of others on *Blue Bird*, could have been recorded 40 years ago, and one imagines they still will be relevant 60 years from now.

Though he can claim national success in bands including Van Halen, Anders Parker keeps a fairly low profile around his adopted Burlington home. His sound and persona are about any age or rock-and-roll ideology; he's just an honestly talented dude.

Anders Parker & Cloud Ridge play the Higher Ground Ballroom in South Burlington on Wednesday July 1, with Drive-By Truckers. There's a *Blue Bird* in My Heart is available at [andersparker.com](http://andersparker.com)

SEAN HOOKE

SEAN HOOKE WITH LARRY  
NORTON FOR THE WEEK



## Carton, *Carton*

(WHAT BOTH LIVE TO: DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

Carton, by Carton, is the latest album out of an unlikely locale for grunge rock and roll: Windsor, Vt. The small town is home to the music collective What Deth Does. This grassroots society for the well-being of indie-punk rock is effectively a co-op for music: "a band with nothing to sell," in the group's own words. Carton is clearly fit the bill. This sound is equally infused with '90s pop-rock, in it indie and punk. But that list of genres doesn't quite capture the band's musical approach.

Unable to fit any of rock's previous prescriptions, Carton adopted the term "ambitious funk" to describe the machine. Ryan Herbert (guitar, vocals) defines the word like this: "Ambitious is a play off the unbridled sound of a similar noise, where the rough rock is anthropologically exposed, all big and sloppy. But, which I find is important as an end in life."



This ideology informs the band's sound as well as. Raw and unapologetic, Carton is used on minimalist architecture. In a similarly loose and unbridled fashion, Carton features clunky, chaotic guitar lines and hammer-and-sledge vocals from Herbert and drummer Bruce Black.

The opening track, "Mad Doves," previews the rest of the album. Its mid-song breakdown is full of a fuzzy and jerky guitar solo in a hard-guitar solo, and somewhere in the song's refrain that confuses, "I'm just a sucker waiting for something to go wrong."

Matt Cox trades expertly scrappy guitar riffs with Herbert on songs like

"It's Always Almost Christmas" and "The Virgin Industrial Complex." The latter is the album's most complex song, a complex song you would call a grunge funk. It's similar to the album, Cox and Herbert compete for supreme guitar greatness on "I Don't Know, Actually," a song that finds the band at its best.

Overall, these songs are simple and straightforward. According to Herbert, the lyrics comes themselves with "the pressure of work, growing bored with existentialism, needing to leave the town, and ignore too much becoming a father." That is as much the weight and anxiety of everyday life that the album's grunge sound is born. Think Pavement with a handful of whiskey metaphors in a here. That is what you get as Carton.

Carton by Carton is available at [carton.bandcamp.com](http://carton.bandcamp.com)

MICHAEL MANACKE



WEDS 10PM-11PM on 34.5 FM  
101.1 & 101.1 FM on 101.1 FM

THURS 10PM-11PM on 101.1 FM  
101.1 FM on 101.1 FM

FRI 10PM-11PM on 101.1 FM  
101.1 FM on 101.1 FM

SAT 10PM-11PM on 101.1 FM  
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## FILL UP

**JAMES AND THE HOOG CHANGERS**  
Pomona Plaza (rock) 9 p.m., \$5

**BARBIE BEAR** Real 4 Music with  
Linda "Lindbergh" Barab  
4 Pomona 9 p.m., free. **THOM  
BROWNE** (Bills) (Amersbach)  
7 p.m. free. **THE GUY BEAR**  
Jorge's (comedy) 8 p.m.  
free. **ART DECADE** (scholarship  
and rock) 8 p.m., free. **THE  
BOONDOOMERS** (punk rock) 10:30  
p.m. free. **THE BRASSERS** (punk)  
in charge, free

**RED SOULS** The Knave  
Sawdust (dance) 8 p.m. free.  
**JAMIE KAYE** (alt rock) 8:30 p.m.  
\$3 p.m., \$5. **JOY CHICK** (rock)  
Pomona 11 p.m., \$5

**RED SOULS** BARK BROS. DJ  
Cox Top (DJ) 8 p.m., \$3  
at 84. **THE FIVE** & **THE OTHER**  
Norton Supermarket DJ (pop  
40) 9 p.m. free

**MARIN JAMES** 84 Crawl  
free rock, 8 p.m., free.  
**THE GUNNED PARADES**  
(Burlington) Fall outside  
rock (rock) 8 p.m. free

**SEN LEONARD** Same Night with  
Jah-Jah 7 p.m., \$3. **CELESTE &  
THE IT** (dance) 9 p.m., \$2-4  
9 p.m., \$5

## chittenden county

**BACKLASH** PUNK Karaoke with  
Jenny Bell 8 p.m. free

**HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE**  
LEONARD, Rocky Smith & the  
Band of Merry Men, Jamboree  
Rock, Top Soldier, Study My  
Rock 10 p.m., \$5-10, \$5

**ON THE RED ROCKERY** Michael  
Brown (rock) 7:30 p.m., donation

## barre/montpelier

**KAUFMAN** Mike Kaufman  
(jazz) 8 p.m., donation

**CHAMBERLAIN** 84 Crawl  
Chamberlain (rock) 10 p.m., free

**NORTH BRANCH CAFE** Tuesday  
(folk, dance) 7:30 p.m., free

**POETRY & PUNK** (Montpelier)  
Chamberlain (rock, folk) 10:30  
p.m., \$5

**WARRIOR BAR** Videos  
(dance) 7:30 p.m., free

## stone/vermont

**THE RED 3 KINGS** Burlington  
(jazz) 8 p.m., 7:30 p.m., donation

**ROCKY HILL BAR & GRILL**  
Rocky Hill (rock) 8:30 p.m.,  
\$3 p.m., \$5

## middlebury area

**CLAY LAMON** Clay Lamon  
Jazz Party with Top Notch  
Entertainment (Jazz) 8:30  
p.m., free

**HOW MANY TIMES** TOWN  
JAZZ & CAFE, Top Notch  
(Jazz) 8 p.m., \$3

## northeast kingdom

**HEAT RATS** SYRUS, Nelson  
Brown 8 p.m., \$3 p.m., free

**THE STAGE** Jay Carbone  
(jazz) 8 p.m., 3:30 p.m., free. **Comedy Night** (standup  
comedy) 7:30 p.m. in free

## outside vermont

**BRIMLEY POLE** North Mountain  
(Jazz) 10 p.m., \$5

**WINDFIRE DOWNTOWN**  
Happy House, Tones & Tones with  
Corey Goodrich 8 p.m. free  
**PAKIST TURF** Power Station  
(rock) 10 p.m., \$5

## SAT.28

## burlington

**BRIMLEY POLE** Cafe, Chelsea  
and the Mustangs (rock) 8 p.m.  
free

**CLUBMEDIOSOUND** (scholarship  
with DJ) 8 p.m., \$5 (no dance  
party) 10 p.m., \$10-15

**WINDFIRE** 5 PUNK (Amersbach)  
Henderson (rock) 8 p.m., free

**WARRIOR** 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

**HALFPOUNCE** (Pomona)  
Shogun (rock) 10:30 p.m.,  
2 p.m. free. **LYNN HARRIS** 3  
p.m. free. **Flashback with Rob  
O'Leary & George** (house) 10  
p.m., free

**JOE & JANE** Karaoke with Max  
6:30 p.m. free

**POCKET** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

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**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free



WARRIOR (2) CHITREX & JEFFREY REDEMPTION (ROOTS REGGAE)

## Deep Roots

trilled in a roots-reggae voice in his native Jamaica, 32-year-old singer **CHITREX** is credited with restoring the soul and spirituality of reggae music. With progressive lyrics and a willingness to adapt the conventions of early reggae with modern flair, the devout Rastafarian's positive-minded take on roots has begun attracting fans around the globe — including Beyoncé, whose *My Love* project released the singer's *Start a Fire* mixtape in 2012. Earning support of a new record, *Devot & Tremble*, Chitrex & Redemptio Redemptio play Club Metrospace in Burlington on Wednesday, July 3, with local DJ **DAVIDSON** and **JAMON**.

## SUN.29

## burlington

**BRIMLEY POLE** Cafe, Chelsea  
(rock) 8 p.m., \$5

**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

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**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

**PAKIST TURF** Power Station  
(rock) 10 p.m., \$5

**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

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**HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE**  
LEONARD, Rocky Smith & the  
Band of Merry Men, Jamboree  
Rock, Top Soldier, Study My  
Rock 10 p.m., \$5-10, \$5

**CHAMBERLAIN** 84 Crawl  
Chamberlain (rock) 10 p.m., free

**NORTH BRANCH CAFE** Tuesday  
(folk, dance) 7:30 p.m., free

**POETRY & PUNK** (Montpelier)  
Chamberlain (rock, folk) 10:30  
p.m., \$5

**WARRIOR BAR** Videos  
(dance) 7:30 p.m., free

**THE RED 3 KINGS** Burlington  
(jazz) 8 p.m., 7:30 p.m., donation

**ROCKY HILL BAR & GRILL**  
Rocky Hill (rock) 8:30 p.m.,  
\$3 p.m., \$5

**CLAY LAMON** Clay Lamon  
Jazz Party with Top Notch  
Entertainment (Jazz) 8:30  
p.m., free

**HOW MANY TIMES** TOWN  
JAZZ & CAFE, Top Notch  
(Jazz) 8 p.m., \$3

**HEAT RATS** SYRUS, Nelson  
Brown 8 p.m., \$3 p.m., free

**THE STAGE** Jay Carbone  
(jazz) 8 p.m., 3:30 p.m., free. **Comedy Night** (standup  
comedy) 7:30 p.m. in free

**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

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**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

**WARRIOR** 8 p.m., 10 p.m., free

## She's Got Reissues

extra steps. But we wanted to be it in to the anniversary.

**SD:** Going back through that album, were you struck by any differences in the person or artist you were when you originally made it?

**LW:** Oddly enough, the songs on that album have really stood the test of time. I do have some older songs from my early career that I don't really like now. But I still do a lot of the songs from that record in my shows. But there are some that I don't feel comfortable doing now.

**SD:** You have a double album due out in September and then another record possibly six months later. One of the things people like me often say about you is that you take your time writing; almost to a fault. What spurred the sudden burst of writing?

**LW:** It was pretty unprecedented. But I think that's gotten better over the years. Back when I started, I wasn't used to the process: writing, recording, touring, writing, recording, touring. You're expected to put out an album every year. And I hadn't recorded that much. When the Rough Trade version of [Lucinda Williams] came out, I'd had so much time to write, because I hadn't been signed to a label and wasn't in that process. I already had all the songs. All of a sudden, I had to come up with a whole bunch more songs, at least as good as those, for the next album. And I had a problem with that, too. It was too soon. I was my own worst critic. I went and said, "Well, I don't have enough good songs. I can't put an album out yet!"

When I went to record *Sweet Old World*, I pulled the plug and went back and wrote more songs, one of which was the title song. I didn't want to just put out anything. In that regard, people call me a perfectionist. But it wasn't really that. I was just nervous.

The real change came after *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*. There was all this pressure because it had done so well and I didn't know how I was going to follow it up. I just had to get to a point where I just said I wasn't going to try to copy *Car Wheels*. And you can see that. I started giving myself more freedom to write songs like "Are You Down." I had to tell myself that not everything had to be this narrative masterpiece.

**SD:** How did you arrive at that revelation?

**LW:** I looked a lot at Bob Dylan's career, how his earlier albums were so metaphorical and deep and crap, and nobody understood 'em. But right before I made *Essence*, he put out that album with Daniel Lanois, *Time Out of Mind*, which I thought was brilliantly simple and eloquent and just beautiful. I saw how kind of go to that place where he had already painted his masterpiece and he was just writing what he wanted to write. And not everybody liked it. He got a lot of criticism. But over the years I've given myself permission to do different kinds of songs and different kinds of things. It's just a matter of growing and being more mature.

**SD:** So was the latest batch of songs written all at once?

**LW:** Not really. I'll start songs and it might take a while for me to finally finish them. In fact, a couple of songs on the new records are several years old. I just hadn't recorded them yet. One of those was a song I wrote years and years ago that I didn't think was good enough to record. And [husband Tom Overby] found it on an old cassette tape dusty and he said, "Wow, this is great. We've got to cut this." And I said,

"Really?" So I cleaned it up a bit and we recorded that.

**SD:** So you really are your own worst critic, huh?

**LW:** [Laughs] I really am. But the new material was really a combination of reworking old material. I had almost forgotten about and writing new stuff.

**SD:** You worked with a friend of mine, Jim Rooney, on John Prine's duets album in *Spirit of the Blues*. How did you find working with Jim?

**LW:** Oh, you? The thing I remember about Jim is that he likes to work quickly. I remember sitting with him and I think we did a few takes and he was like, "OK, that's a wrap!" He likes to get in there and get it done. But he was real easy to work with and super friendly. ☺

## INFO

Lucinda Williams (band, Knoxville, Tenn.) Saturday, June 28 at 8 p.m. at Flynn Meetingplace in Burlington. 30.50/39.50/49.50/59.50



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**LORD HURON**

**Tuesday, July 15**  
Higher Ground Ballroom

SOAK THE PLACE WITH LUXURY TO WATCH A VIDEO SEE PAGE 5

**WIN TIX!**

Go to [seesdayvt.com](http://seesdayvt.com) and answer 2 trivia questions.  
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Deadline: 6/21 at noon. Winners notified by 5 p.m.







# Into the Light

"In a New Light: French Impressionism Arrives in America," Pizzagalli Center, Shelburne Museum

If it weren't for Mary Cassatt, the Shelburne Museum's current exhibit "In a New Light: French Impressionism Arrives in America" might very well not exist. The painter (1844-1926) was born in Pittsburgh but found what she called her "spiritual home" in Paris. There, she fell in with Edgar Degas and a group of outlier

painters who came to be known as impressionists. And her friendship with Louise

Hawmayre, mother of Shelburne Museum founder Eliza Hawmayre Webb, connected the American art-collecting family and those particular French artists.

One result: The Glade Menet painting "Le Pont, Amsterdam" (1870-72) was his first work acquired by an American and brought to the United States. In the Pizzagalli Center, that painting gets pride of place on the wall facing visitors as they enter the gallery its striking composition — the dark span of a gently arching drawbridge looms the canvas horizontally, as a spike-topped tower pierces the sky behind it — is echoed in a large-scale photograph of the same scene. This is hung on a panel to the left and further back in the room.

The interesting juxtaposition early on underscores what the impressionists were all about: Menet depicted an ordinary city scene but did so with short, active brushstrokes that render it an impression, rather than faithful, hard-edged realism, and he was much more interested in the atmosphere. This latter obsession would result in the impressionists' habit of painting on plein air in order to better see and capture the elusive effects of light (and, points out Shelburne Museum director Tom Denenberg, technological improvements in paint itself facilitated working outdoors, while rail transportation could whisk artists out of the city and into the countryside to paint).

It's easy to forget, more than a century later, that all of this was groundbreaking in its day. Rejected by the academic art establishment, the impressionists formed their own group — into which



"Le Pont, Amsterdam" by Glade Menet

IT'S EASY TO FORGET. MORE THAN A CENTURY LATER, THAT ALL OF THIS WAS GROUNDBREAKING IN ITS DAY.



"The Frying Fry" by Henry Cassatt

an American female painter was accepted. This came about after art historians a rich tribe of aesthetes, but for the impressionists' exhibit, it's the Hawthorne connection that matters, and that relationship is the underlying theme of "In a New Light."

Collecting impressionist paintings in the latter 19th century was also fairly radical — but perhaps perfectly logical if one of your bosses was Mary Cassatt. Lorraine and her husband, Henry G. Hawthorne, were art collectors whose tastes extended to the unconventional. The family ultimately donated some 4,500 artworks to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City (an exhibition of the collection in 1992 suggested a 812-page catalog). As

Denenberg notes, the paintings that ended up at the Shelburne Museum are "the ones Eliza inherited and kept."

"In a New Light" guest curated by Margaret Burgess, presents nearly 20 works (not all of them strictly impressionist) including two borrowed paintings — from the National Gallery of Art and from a private collection. Menet is well represented, with a half dozen paintings both urban — such as the foggy London scene "The Thames at Charing Cross Bridge" (1899) — and rural. Among the latter is "Moulin, effect de nuit" (1891), depicting a pair of pun-shaped haystacks in the snow, and the supposedly gauzy "L'Église de Vernon" featuring a church not far from Monet's Giverny home.

On view also are two works by Degas portraying his beloved dancers, four by Edouard Manet, including the spectacularly composed and painted "The Grand Canal of Venice" (1873), and five by Cassatt. Though she is best known for oil portraits of women and children — including one here of Lorraine and her young daughter Eliza — two pieces in this exhibit are a revelation, at least to this viewer.

The textual droppings-and-sugarcoats points (to 1890) reveal the Japanese influence on Cassatt's work — minimal, delicate lines, subdued palette, multiple patterns in "The Calfare," a woman, who is made above the waist, sits on a uniped, upholstered chair in front of a long mirror and adjusts her bun. When her from the side, but the mirror shows us her breasts and her down-turned face. "The Frying Fry," another intimate but less voyeuristic image, depicts a woman standing fully clothed before a mirror as a cooing steamers adjusts the skirt's hem.

While her male peers rendered primarily outdoor city and country scenes, struggling the dispersal of sunlight, Cassatt chose to paint everyday private moments, indoors, in the lives of women. She defied convention in her own way.

One luscious, richly broad painting by Gustave Courbet in this exhibit, "Still Life—Fruit" (1875), is a bridge to an artistic movement that preceded

## NEW THIS WEEK

## burialgrounds

► **JULIA LUKATEL** Black and white photographs of urban scenes, freestyle lines and abstract black and white collages. **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. June 27, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## children's events

► **20TH ANNUAL FANTASY DUST THEATRE** Arts and crafts, puppet shows, and a variety of other activities. **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

► **LORENZO C. HUNTER** "The artist's journey, a collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

► **WILLIAM C. HUNTER** "The artist's journey, a collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## burre/montpelier

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## stone/southern area

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## south river valley/waterbury

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## middlebury area

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## champlain islands/northeast

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## northeast kingdom

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

PAMELA POLSTON



the impressionists, and which they rejected/realized.

The show's title "In a New Light" is a double entendre, referring not only to the impressionists' innovations on canvas but to the fact that these paintings were taken from the dinner quarters of the Memorial Building into the illuminated Perganda Center "We wanted to put these in better light," says Denenberg. "LED light." It was a smart move.

Only three of these artists saw the light of the 20th century. Degas died in 1917, Cassatt and Monet in 1926. And though their paintings are no longer seen as radical, they continue to make a very good impression.

Contact: [pamela@denenberg.com](mailto:pamela@denenberg.com)

## INFO

In a New Light: French Impressionism on Art Review America! Photographs by Art Review America! Photographs by Art Review America! Photographs by Art Review America!

**VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS**  
ART LISTS AND ART TIPS ARE WRITTEN BY PAMELA POLSTON  
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ART LISTS AND ART TIPS ARE WRITTEN BY PAMELA POLSTON

**WORLD BY FREDERICK WOOD** and his art collection  
July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## ART EVENTS

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

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## ONGOING SHOWS

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## burialgrounds

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## stone/southern area

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## middlebury area

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## champlain islands/northeast

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

## northeast kingdom

► **JOHN CHANDLER** "A collection of his early paintings by the National Art Museum." **Exhibition:** Friday, July 26, 10-5 p.m. 802-333-3333. **Kierne Exhibition in Burlington**

PHOTOGRAPH BY PAMELA POLSTON

PHOTOGRAPH BY PAMELA POLSTON

**PLAY** One hundred of artist's most recent works, including a new work titled "Play," through July 31, 101-2324. Prices: One \$40; 2 for \$75.

**THEA BROOKER** A retrospective of works by the Vermont artist, through August 3. Info: 832-4342. Arts & Visual Gallery, Upper Center in East Village.

**TOAD KATE** Abstract, mixed-media paintings by the Vermont artist, installed by Massachusetts Museum. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Website: [museumboston.org](http://museumboston.org).

**SARAH KIRKMAN** "UpClose" photographs by the University of Vermont professor. Through July 17. Info: 877-3371. Flying Cloud at KVM in East Village.

**STUDIO 54 GROUP EXHIBITION** The 14 founding artists in this photograph show their work as various artists. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Website: [museumboston.org](http://museumboston.org). Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

**"TELEPHONE"** A set of the telephone game, one without a general work from their series. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village. Through June 26. Info: 334-5444. The Studio 54 in East Village.

**"C. SCHALLER"** A set of the telephone game, one without a general work from their series. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village. Through June 26. Info: 334-5444. The Studio 54 in East Village.

**VERMONT ARTISTS GROUP EXHIBITION** The 14 founding artists in this photograph show their work as various artists. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Website: [museumboston.org](http://museumboston.org). Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

## children and family

**ARTIST'S WORKSHOP** A program for children and families by artist Dennis B. Baker. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

**CAROL WOOD** "Thinking of the World" mixed-media artwork, at artist's reception, North Main. Through August 30. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

**CHARLOTTE WOOD** A set of the telephone game, one without a general work from their series. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

**ERIN MCNEIL** A set of the telephone game, one without a general work from their series. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

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**Arthur Schaller** In "Billboard Buildings," the first solo show by a Norwich University professor at the schools Sullivan Museum, Arthur Schaller shows 24 original collages on wood. Schaller, who's taught architecture and design for 40 years (all of them at Norwich), has made richly textured, colorful, mixed-media pieces that depict frontal views of buildings and three-dimensional spaces. All of these pieces are created from printed materials glued to board. Schaller characterizes his approach to the process as "obsessive," particularly when it comes to the collage materials. The artist noted and cut his way through countless printed publications, saving the scraps by color, texture or image fragment, then produced a series, "exploring a guiding theme or concept until it was exhausted, making room for a new influence." Through December 19. Pictured: "Billboard Buildings III."

**Billboard Buildings III** Exhibition by Arthur Schaller, 101-2324. Prices: One \$40; 2 for \$75.

**VERMONT ARTISTS GROUP EXHIBITION** The 14 founding artists in this photograph show their work as various artists. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

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with positive or negative design at Vermont College. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village. Through July 31. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

**JOHN TUCKER** "My Month Mind-Manager" group of digital illustrations that play with concepts of memory. Through June 30. Info: 334-5444. Studio 54 in East Village.

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# movies

## Jersey Boys

**G**ood movies make you think. Bad movies make you wonder. Clint Eastwood turned, time-and-a-half — at two and a quarter hours — a culturally inescapable adaptation of the musical *Jersey Boys* into a war of attrition. What did he think would result in this thing?

Nobody asked. There's a likely to have the fastest idea who Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons were, much less would there strong of high-pitched hits. Willy Coyne and Beyoncé have. I feel certain, do not seem to go behind the music and witness the rise of the group that gave us "Sherry." Let's hear it for "Big Girls Don't Cry." And for those of us who were around then, I believe I speak for a generation when I say: "Thanks, you good."

As much for popular demand. When you're there, you get to do whatever you want. However, every (insert your choice) here.

The boys begin their climb to fame on the proverbial Italian American streets of Belleville in the late 1950s. The first half of the film plays like a musical comedy, with Frankie (John Lloyd Young) showing watch as just Young DeWitt (Nolan Feinberg) and Nick Massi (Michael Lomazzi) pull rhythm

SCAN THIS PAGE  
WITH THE LYNX QR  
TO WATCH MOVIE TRAILERS  
PAGE 2



jobs. When a cop approaches, he bursts into song to warn them. Yeah, that would happen. Eventually they pick up eleven police cars, as the Four Seasons play groovy loud jams. While Young acts as the band's manager, the star is clearly the lead with the multi-voiced, childlike falsetto — an instrument that would remain unrivaled for these tender moments until Vito (as) became a punch line something like she was being David's double later.

The group's fortunes improve when Bob Gaudio (Ethan Phillips) joins as keyboardist and songwriter, and the quartet changes its name to a series of signaling balloons. The night Frankie looks up to the moon, he's the *Four Seasons* looking like they're on and he's alone. "Look, it's a sign!" Suggestively the scene was not played for laughs.

The second half of the film looks looked on from a different project. It's a cautionary tale. Not about drugs or bads but about poor bookkeeping. At the peak of the group's fame, Frankie loses it's in debt up to its eyeballs to the IRS and the cash. We're expected to believe the band's accountants cut Young checks over the years totaling nearly a million dollars, but nobody ever mentioned that to his bankers. Yeah, that could be pretty.



WONDER BOYS (clockwise from left) Bob about a jazz piano, but his four most are with the Four Seasons in *Jersey Boys*. Leave your wondering what he was thinking.

Why? One is left to wonder. Why around the band's hits but otherwise they're likely and not of order? (One — "My Eyes Adored You" — isn't even a *Four Seasons* release but a solo from Vito's solo career.) Why *Jersey Boys* the movie — anyone with access to Wikipedia can verify that Gaudio wasn't the sole writer of these songs, or the songs by Stanfield Brothers and Dick Elice (sons of the stage show) suggests. Why lose an actor as iconic as Christopher Walken to play a gangster who looks out for Frankie and then give him zero opportunity to do anything Christopher Walken?

Why exaggerate the group's cultural significance? Sure, the songs were catchy

as it is said. Why after the musicians in old-timey makeup for their 1959 induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame? Vito is not out there singing the same old songs, and looks proper nearly a quarter century ago. Why would anyone pay good money to sit through a movie that did it all the opposite. *Jersey Boys* is a song, that's why. It's probably the one we can answer. According to the weekend numbers, next is nobody did.

RICK KIDMAN

## Joe

**A** bout a year ago I received a tip that a Vermont-based star named Basil Goolbsky had landed a major producing role film, including the star himself. What movie? While the star regarding Goolbsky's Green Mountains origins seems unconfirmed it appears to be check out his latest collaboration with director David Gordon Green. Joe (United 136).

A Texas-set 2013 drama that never reached our multiplexes, Joe is now available for streaming and on video. It stars Nicolas Cage. But he's not doing what we suspect from *Joe*: Cage — namely, denoting every power of man asked down scenery to right. For a Green-filming the expectations we might have based on his Hollywood resume of comedies such as *Prisoners* (Koppe) and *Joe* (Hollister).

Before he made these movies, Green was best known for rom-coms. His return to these sorts with Joe, scripted by Gary Hustaiter. It's a tale of unlikely allies — a middle-aged ex-military and a dirt-poor teen — that never becomes with Jeff Bridges' *Most* (not least because both films display the talents of young star The Kidman).

Here Bridges plays Gary, a 15-year-old in domestic violence. His vulnerable family is Austin's Lawrence's character who in *Joe* (Hollister) loses over time the no-guilt of destruction, growing dramatically



CAGE DROPS THE KIDMAN INTO AN UNUSUAL SCENARIO: A MIDDLE-AGED MAN AND A YOUNG BOY.

as he makes all the boy's efforts. Poole's a real-life homeless man who was placed all the arms of *Amos* to star in the film, was found dead shortly before in release. Even to a minor awareness of that history his performance feels disturbingly real like *Joe*. Even if the weekend turned up several notices.

Given that anyone of them at the film's center, it's a good that Cage chose to tone things down a bit. His Joe runs a week now naked with killing while grows of "just" ones. When he pumps poison into a truck

the action feels like a physical manifestation of his toxic emotional state.

We gradually learn that only Joe's bond with his mother keeps him in his gradually boring life and out of jail when his anger has led him to the past. But, under Gary's lead, he wants to do better — and uses an opportunity when the boy comes to him for a job.

The basic narrative of *Joe* — a broken man understanding himself by following a kid in need — is far from original. The movie's female characters are drastically unconvincing,

with a couple of them seemingly present only to be abused, and the script offers up plenty of well-worn relationship tropes.

What *Joe* does share (nicely stated, breaks the sitting, is Green's intense intervention to seeing and listening. We notice not just the intense honesty that his camera gives us in stark, hardly week-long, but also the sparse documentary details with which Green fills in this corner of the world. The work ethic's better, the true-filming procedure the mysterious throned who drops by Joe's house with a deer camera. (His son's still in it as a camera, with a camera.)

Most of these characters are played by nonprofessionals and have no plot relevance, they're just local color. But it's rich, varied color and by the end, we may feel like we've been sleeping in the Texas heat and had a taste of the past movie landscape working on us through Joe's vision.

Couldn't it be? — speculation is. The disappearance of *Joe* (Hollister), an unspoken tragedy about a married marriage that we may or may not see on our screens this fall. Meanwhile, it's good to be reminded that there are summer alternatives to robots, fairy tales, superheroes and post-apocalyptic — even if we have to look them at home at during a one-week run at our local art-house cinema.

HANDBOT HARRISON





# LOCAL theaters

▶ WHEN TWO WEEKS IN A ROW, WE'VE GOT TO GO TO THE DRIVE-INS! SEVENMOVIES.COM/REVIEWS

## BLAU CINPLEX 4

Box 565, Mountville, PA  
717.533.3333

Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Deliver Us From Evil  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday: Age of Extinction  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D

## CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

411 N. 1st St., Harrisburg, PA  
717.633.1111

Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
Jimmy Steps

3d Mon. Days of Future Past  
3d Mon. Days of Future Past

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
The Fault in Our Stars  
Jimmy Steps

Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D

## ESSER CINEMAS & T-Rex THEATER

2100 W. Main St., York, PA  
717.833.3333

Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Deliver Us From Evil  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday: Age of Extinction  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D

At Hidden Wings in

On our Week  
Night  
Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D  
Friday: Age of Extinction 3D  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D  
Sunday: Age of Extinction 3D

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday: Age of Extinction  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D  
Sunday: Age of Extinction 3D  
Monday: Age of Extinction 3D

## MARQUEE THEATRE

Box 11, 14th St., York, PA  
717.833.3333

Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

## MERRILL'S ROXY CINEMA

111 N. 1st St., Harrisburg, PA  
717.633.1111

Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

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Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

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## SUNSET DRIVE-IN THEATRE

111 N. 1st St., Harrisburg, PA  
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Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Deliver Us From Evil  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday: Age of Extinction  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D

## WELDON THEATRE

Box 11, 14th St., York, PA  
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Wednesday 21 — Thursday 22

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Wednesday: Age of Extinction  
Thursday: Age of Extinction 3D

Friday 23 — Saturday 24

**32 Jump Jitters**  
Edges of Tomorrow  
The Fault in Our Stars  
How to Train Your Dragon 2

Friday: Age of Extinction  
Saturday: Age of Extinction 3D

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## Curses, Follies Again

Police reported that a gunman killed a 64-year-old man in New Orleans to withdraw money from an automated teller machine, but before the ATM dispensed the cash, the robber fell asleep. The victim died and police, who arrested Michael Baker, 37 (New Orleans' WDSU-TV).

While shooting scenes for a Fox television show in Chicago, a production crew was granted access to the Cook County Jail but had to undergo background checks because of the "intensive security measures that we impose on any visitor," sheriff's official Ken Ivers said. The screening disclosed that crewmember James Salsedo, 61, was wanted on a domestic battery warrant dated in 2003. Salsedo took him into custody (Chicago Tribune).

## Second-Amendment Follies

Barbie Melonzo told authorities in Liberty County, Texas, that her 12-year-old son injured himself with a bullet he found. "We held a corpse for 10 days and saw a 22-caliber round to see what would happen," the sheriff's report said. "The bullet exploded, sending bullet fragments through his left middle finger and lodging in the left wrist" (Houston Chronicle).

Police said L.C. Williams, 30 shot himself in the foot in a supermarket parking lot in Orlando, Fla. Williams said police that his bullet had no security broken, so he was carrying the concealed weapon in his waistband. The gun fell out of the waistband, hit his foot and fired. The round then ricocheted into the grill of

an automobile, causing about \$500 in damage, and police, who did not charge Williams (Orlando Sentinel).

While attempting to balance his 45-caliber pistol at a gas station in Mason, Ga., a man shot himself in the groin area. Authorities reported that when he took off his pants to check the wound, he saw that he had "shot himself in the pants and that the bullet exited out of his buttocks" (Mason's WGAT-TV).

## Vacation at Bernie's

The European Court of Justice ruled that a German man's vacation was due payment for the man's 10.5 days of second vacation because "the untended occurrence of the worker's death must not retroactively lead to a total loss of the entitlement to paid annual leave" (Associated Press).

## Family Feud

Two weeks before the death of radio DJ Casey Kasem, 61, the final frontier was left with Jerry Kasem, 59, and his daughter, Keri Kasem, evacuated when Keri arrived in his home in Silverdale, Calif., with an ambulance to take her father to the hospital. While paramedics waited to enter the home, Keri threw a pound of raw hamburger meat at Keri. She explained that she was following a Bible verse: "In the name of King David, I throw a piece of raw meat into the street

in exchange for my husband to the wild midday dogs" (NBC News).

## Slightest Provocation

Authorities told Derrick Johnson, 25, shot and killed a 29-year-old man in York, Pa., after they fought because the victim's friend had asked Johnson and his friends to move aside as he could make a pool shot (Associated Press).

## Look Out Below

Operator error and mechanical failure have caused at least 49 large military drones to crash during test or training flights near domestic bases since 2001. Under orders from Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration is preparing to close civilian airspace. Rights and problems that as many as 1,000 small commercial drones could be flying in U.S. airspace by 2015 (Washington Post).

## Gray Power

When Russell Cooper, 75, was unable to withdraw \$150 at a bank in Baytown, Texas, because a "computer lock of funds" had caused the bank to close his account, police and Cooper became "increasingly agitated" and used his walker to shuffle over to the branch manager's desk. He pulled out a pocket knife and threatened to use it on a teller

After getting his money, Cooper told the manager he was taking him hostage and forced him outside. By now, police had arrived, but Cooper refused to surrender and had to be subdued with a Taser (South Florida Sun-Sentinel).

## First-Amendment Follies

Arizona's Marriage Association of Governments ordered Dennis Barker, 66, to "immediately cease performing ceremonies at MAG meetings." Officials said they had warned Barker repeatedly not to perform ceremonies because doing so disrupted meetings. "We have from time to time suggested that MAG cannot prevent you from performing ceremonies during your ceremonies," his letter to her states. "That position is incorrect." Barker called the letter "intimidating threatening and defaming" and said the agency has infringed on her right of free expression. Michael LeVine, who chairs MAG's Regional Council, denied the ban is an attempt to shut down public comment but "is a safety issue" (Phoenix's Arizona Republic).

## Double Jeopardy

A woman who discovered a sex kit in the rear of her family's home in Louisville, Ky., grabbed the dog's water bowl to chase the blow. Instead, the fire quickly spread, fire and rescue Mayor Rob Moore said, because the woman's 3-year-old daughter had mistakenly filled the water bowl with gasoline. Crews needed an hour to extinguish the fire, which had spread to a neighbor's house. (Louisville's WAVE-TV).

JEN SORESENSEN



HARRY BLISS



"We'll always have smoking cigarettes in public places."





## Cancer

1994, July 22

If you could harness the energy from a typical lightening bolt, you would be able to use it to toast 100,000 slices of bread. That's an impossible scenario, of course. But I use it as an apt metaphor for the challenge you have as host of *you*. I suspect you will soon get access to a massive influx of vital force that arrives in a relatively short time. Can you find a way to gather it in and store it up? Or will most of it, after the initial burst, leak away and be unusable for long-term use? The secret to success will be in whether you can figure out how to create the perfect container.

and religious errors. I'm inclined to advise you take neither these up nor debate nor polemicalizing in the coming days (indeed I suspect you will thrive by being spontaneous and improvisatory. Wring it, baby! There's even the word: trust yourself. Play it by ear or make it up as you go along. If you find yourself traveling with these ideas and others of my past presentation you will know yours off course. If you are feeling balky and apologetic as you get a bit done with creative efficiency you will know yours right in the groove.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) The Japanese word *tsunabiki* describes what happens if you buy a lot of boats but never send them leaving: there's piled up in a neglected heap. I understand that you, misanthropliving in Hawaii, do any time carry Gemini. In fact, I hope you not to argue in my presence that you then proceed to eject. You live in a phase of your astrological cycle where it's crucial to make a conscious use of your tools and riches. To let them go as waste would be to dishonor them and make it less likely that you will continue to receive their blessings in the future. Take full advantage of what's yours.

**LED** (July 23-Aug. 22): Forget the suffering. / You caused others / I forget the suffering. / Others caused you. / Cause others' suffer these words in his poem. Forget! and now he, passing them on to you. According to his writing at the metaphysical moment now would be an excellent time for you to purge the old hurts you are still carrying, both those you do it and those you endured. Opportunities like this don't come along often. Use it! Invite you to enjoy emotional detox, declare intensity and engross in any act of forgiveness. Anything things you can think about without ever the cause repeat.

**VIRGO** [Aug. 23-Sept. 22] When a Virgo baby laughs for the first time, everyone in the community celebrates. It's regarded as the moment when the child completes his or her transition from the spirit realm into the physical world. The primary role has provided the baby's laughter is charged with planning the First Laugh Ceremony, a party to commemorate the physical event. I foresee a comparable development in your life: Virgo kids won't be laughing for the first time.

course, but I suspect your sense of humor will reach inward painless. Hooray! Maybe you will be able to find amusement in things you have always taken too seriously. Maybe you will suddenly have a deeper appreciation for life's ongoing comic jokes. Or perhaps you will shrivel upon seasons that laugh longer and harder and louder than you can have before.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Sept. 22) Whatdo you like to live. You live the experience of getting, or can't. So you think it might be safe if I don't even assume you'd be living, or so it is. I don't know how you should proceed; any American writer (Scott Huxford) "Do nothing, say nothing, be nothing." But in actual fact, I recommend that behavior for you, Libra. In the coming weeks you have a second shot to be your future self to risk being controversial. I urge you to be more strong, strong, speak more loudly and show your real feelings. Be you, my dear Libra. You might deserve the prize for the most beautiful person in the world for the month you receive. This is one time when being controversial is more important than being harmless.

**SCORPIO** (Nov. 23-Nov. 24) "Be respectful to the great masters, if you think you're" said the visionary author Mark Twain. How do you respond to that epoch-nudge, Scorpion? Are there any gnostics and heretics out there whom you consider to be worthy of your respect? If not, I urge you to go out in search of none. In this phase of your evolution, you are in a special need of people who inspire you with their greatness. It's crucial for you to learn from teachers and role models who are better loved than you are in their own right. Of the genre of *Yogi*, I would believe it would be best for you to feel waves of admiration and awe, not envy.

**SAGITTARIUS** *June 22-Dec. 23*  
Everyone has something to hide—decided Russian author Anton Chekhov is that true? Or even you Mund Sagittarians have something to hide? I'm going to say that for 90 percent of you the answer is yes. There are secrets you don't want anyone to find out about: past events you are reluctant to disclose or shady deeds you are gifting away with now or before thoughts you want to keep tucked away from outside knowledge. I'm not

here to scold you about them or to encourage you to spell them. On the contrary, I say its time to bring them fully into your conscious awareness, to honor their importance to your life story and to acknowledge their power to contribute your transformation.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A Gemini channel named Fella Hoffman has a prominent role in synthesizing two very different drugs: wagers and tennis. In composing your astrological address for the coming month, I see you're having a similar potential. You could create good stuff that will have the power to help and heal, or you could generate baddest stuff that will lead to a lot of problems, or you could do both. How it will play out really is up to you. You will! But best results: set your intention to go in the direction of things like wagers and away from things like tennis.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) This is a good time to take a little leap of faith, but not a sprawling leap over a yondering abyss. Feel free and enjoy about exploring the outer borders of familiar territory, but be cautious about the prospect of wandering into the deep dark unknown. Be willing to entertain considering new ideas, but not cracked ration that have little evidence to back them up. Your task is to shake up the status quo just enough to enlighten everyone's emotional intelligence, even as you're sure not to unleash an upheaval that makes everyone angry.

**FISCES** (Pres. 18 March 2012) British poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1796-1834) had an unusual bedtime. He enjoyed eating apples and pears and other fruits while they were still hanging on the tree. Why? Maybe because the taste was as pure and brisk and sweet as it could possibly be — an experience that I imagine would be important to a farmer's poet like him. In accordance with your astrological errors, I suggest you use Coleridge's Quest for Ultimate Richness as a driving metaphor in the coming year. Go to the source to get what you need. Dispense with intermediaries. Do as you see the flow of...

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